

Plan to Win built strong foundation in 2003 ...
Continuing the momentum in 2004 ...



11-year summary

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Dollars in millions, except per share data	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Company-operated sales	\$12,795	11,500	11,041	10,467	9,512	8,895	8,136	7,571	6,863	5,793	5,157
Franchised and affiliated revenues	\$ 4,345	3,906	3,829	3,776	3,747	3,526	3,273	3,116	2,932	2,528	2,251
Total revenues	\$17,140	15,406	14,870	14,243	13,259	12,421	11,409	10,687	9,795	8,321	7,408
Operating income	\$ 2,832⁽¹⁾	2,113 ⁽²⁾	2,697 ⁽³⁾	3,330	3,320	2,762 ⁽⁴⁾	2,808	2,633	2,601	2,241	1,984
Income before taxes and cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$ 2,346⁽¹⁾	1,662 ⁽²⁾	2,330 ⁽³⁾	2,882	2,884	2,307 ⁽⁴⁾	2,407	2,251	2,169	1,887	1,676
Net income	\$ 1,471^(1,5)	893 ^(2,6)	1,637 ⁽³⁾	1,977	1,948	1,550 ⁽⁴⁾	1,642	1,573	1,427	1,224	1,083
Cash provided by operations	\$ 3,269	2,890	2,688	2,751	3,009	2,766	2,442	2,461	2,296	1,926	1,680
Capital expenditures	\$ 1,307	2,004	1,906	1,945	1,868	1,879	2,111	2,375	2,064	1,539	1,317
Treasury stock purchases	\$ 439	687	1,090	2,002	933	1,162	765	605	321	500	628
Financial position at year end:											
Total assets	\$25,525	23,971	22,535	21,684	20,983	19,784	18,242	17,386	15,415	13,592	12,035
Total debt	\$ 9,731	9,979	8,918	8,474	7,252	7,043	6,463	5,523	4,836	4,351	3,713
Total shareholders' equity	\$11,982	10,281	9,488	9,204	9,639	9,465	8,852	8,718	7,861	6,885	6,274
Shares outstanding <i>in millions</i>	1,262	1,268	1,281	1,305	1,351	1,356	1,371	1,389	1,400	1,387	1,415
Per common share:											
Net income–basic	\$ 1.16^(1,5)	.70 ^(2,6)	1.27 ⁽³⁾	1.49	1.44	1.14 ⁽⁴⁾	1.17	1.11	.99	.84	.73
Net income–diluted	\$ 1.15^(1,5)	.70 ^(2,6)	1.25 ⁽³⁾	1.46	1.39	1.10 ⁽⁴⁾	1.15	1.08	.97	.82	.71
Dividends declared	\$.40	.24	.23	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15	.13	.12	.11
Market price at year end	\$ 24.83	16.08	26.47	34.00	40.31	38.41	23.88	22.69	22.56	14.63	14.25
Company-operated restaurants	8,959	9,000	8,378	7,652	6,059	5,433	4,887	4,294	3,783	3,216	2,733
Franchised restaurants	18,132	17,864	17,395	16,795	15,949	15,086	14,197	13,374	12,186	10,944	9,918
Affiliated restaurants	4,038	4,244	4,320	4,260	4,301	3,994	3,844	3,216	2,330	1,739	1,476
Total Systemwide restaurants	31,129	31,108	30,093	28,707	26,309	24,513	22,928	20,884	18,299	15,899	14,127
Franchised and affiliated sales⁽⁷⁾	\$33,137	30,026	29,590	29,714	28,979	27,084	25,502	24,241	23,051	20,194	18,430

(1) Includes pretax charges (substantially all noncash) of \$408 million (\$323 million after tax or \$0.25 per share) primarily related to the disposition of certain non-McDonald's brands and asset/goodwill impairment.

(2) Includes pretax charges of \$853 million (\$700 million after tax or \$0.55 per share) primarily related to restructuring certain international markets and eliminating positions, restaurant closings/asset impairment and the write-off of technology costs. (The cash portion of these charges was approximately \$100 million after tax.)

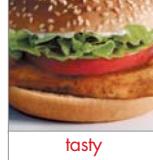
(3) Includes pretax operating charges of \$378 million primarily related to the U.S. business reorganization and other global change initiatives, and restaurant closings/asset impairment as well as net pretax nonoperating income of \$125 million primarily related to a gain on the initial public offering of McDonald's Japan, for a total pretax expense of \$253 million (\$143 million after tax or \$0.11 per share). (The cash portion of this net expense was approximately \$100 million after tax.) Net income also reflects an effective tax rate of 29.8 percent, primarily due to the benefit of tax law changes in certain international markets (\$147 million).

(4) Includes pretax charges of \$322 million (\$219 million after tax or \$0.16 per share) consisting of \$162 million of Made For You costs and \$160 million related to a home office productivity initiative.

(5) Includes a \$37 million after-tax charge (\$0.03 per share) to reflect the cumulative effect of the adoption of SFAS No. 143 "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations," which requires legal obligations associated with the retirement of long-lived assets to be recognized at their fair value at the time the obligations are incurred.

(6) Includes a \$99 million after-tax charge (\$0.08 per share–basic and \$0.07 per share–diluted) to reflect the cumulative effect of the adoption of SFAS No. 142 "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," which eliminates the amortization of goodwill and instead subjects it to annual impairment tests. Adjusted for the nonamortization provisions of SFAS No. 142, net income per common share would have been \$0.02 higher in 2001 and 2000 and \$0.01 higher in 1996–1999.

(7) While franchised and affiliated sales are not recorded as revenues by the Company, management believes they are important in understanding the Company's financial performance because these sales are the basis on which the Company calculates and records franchised and affiliated revenues and are indicative of the financial health of the franchisee base.



Dear shareholders:

I made a pledge to you in this letter last year. I committed that McDonald's would build a rock-solid foundation that could provide reliable top-line and bottom-line growth, and predictable, solid returns on invested capital.

Today, I am proud to report that we are delivering on our commitment.

As you will recall, our business was in serious need of improvement when I became Chairman and CEO at the beginning of 2003. I said back then that we had taken our eyes off our fries, and we paid a price. Our performance had disappointed our customers, our shareholders and ourselves. We knew we had a lot of work to do to right McDonald's ship and rebuild our foundation to support future growth.

2003 a watershed year

Today, I can tell you that 2003 was a watershed year for McDonald's. In saying this, I am relying on the dictionary definition of watershed as "a turning point that marks a change of course." Credit for this remarkable change in such a short time is shared among our dedicated owner/operators, our suppliers and our employees—they exceeded our expectations. Together, working with McDonald's leadership team, we reestablished McDonald's as an industry leader.

In 2003, we promised that we would redefine our approach to growth...and we delivered by focusing on adding more customers to existing restaurants, rather than just adding more restaurants to our System.

This meant a remarkable cultural change after 48 years—learning to grow by being better, rather than being bigger. We reduced capital expenditures by \$700 million to reflect our strategic shift. We narrowed our non-McDonald's brand activity, and we focused our attention on our customers.

Most important, we made operations excellence and marketing leadership the cornerstones of everything we did last year. If an initiative didn't positively impact our customers or our restaurants, it wasn't on our agenda. We called this "clearing the decks," which produced much-needed focus and discipline.

As a result, we ended 2003 with positive comparable sales for nine consecutive months in the U.S. and eight consecutive months worldwide.

We also promised that we would build brand relevance...and we delivered with the launch of a global leadership marketing campaign.

McDonald's is turning 50 years old next year. This is an impressive business milestone—but we don't want to look or feel 50 years old to our customers.

Our unprecedented worldwide "i'm lovin' it" campaign—with its contemporary look and sound—has connected with customers in a powerful way. It has created excitement. It is driving increased sales. And it is bringing the magic back to McDonald's marketing.

"i'm lovin' it" has helped us to think differently about how we present ourselves to customers, and we'll continue to use this creative approach to build relevance with our key customer segments.

"i'm lovin' it" targets young adults, women and families—and we're proud that the campaign was ranked one of the five best of 2003 by *The Wall Street Journal*.

We also promised that we would improve our restaurant operations...and we are making progress on a variety of fronts.

We are improving our food taste attributes and adding new menu items that our customers want. We are working closely with our owner/operators to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our restaurants. We're working with our suppliers to identify production and sourcing efficiencies worldwide. And we're measuring our results in every restaurant to help us improve even further in the future.



All of our activities are being driven by our customers, because we know the customer is our boss.

Significantly, we promised that we would improve returns to shareholders...and we delivered across the board.

Cash from operations reached a record \$3.3 billion in 2003. We used this cash flow to fund capital expenditures, pay down \$900 million of debt and return nearly \$1 billion to shareholders. We raised our annual dividend by the largest amount in history—70 percent—to \$500 million. We also repurchased \$440 million of our stock.

Reflecting this improved financial discipline and performance, McDonald's stock price increased more than 90 percent since my letter to you in last year's annual report.

A stronger foundation in 2004

Despite last year's impressive results, we have considerably more to do. Revitalization is not a quick fix for McDonald's. It is a long-term plan to generate predictable growth in sales and profits.

We will continue to take the necessary steps this year to revitalize our business and strengthen our foundation. This will put us in a position to deliver sustainable growth.

Our entire System is aligned with our plan to do just that—McDonald's Plan to Win.

This Plan contains aggressive goals and measures for success based on the critical drivers of our customers' experiences—people, products, price, place and promotion. McDonald's performance is not driven by one product or one initiative. Our long-term success will result from executing and innovating in each of our business drivers.

To strengthen restaurant operations in 2004, we are marshalling our resources to make a significant, positive impact on the speed, accuracy and friendliness of our service. This includes providing our

people with more hospitality training and rigorously measuring our operational performance.

We will also enhance our overall customer experience by continuing to reinvest in existing restaurants.

Enhancing food taste, adding variety and extending value menus to more markets will remain priorities as well.

We also appreciate our customers' desire for safe products that fit within their lifestyles. So we will continue to play a leadership role in assuring the safety and quality of our food. Additionally, we are responding to lifestyle issues with an initiative that focuses on three important areas: menu choice, physical activity and education.

Taken together, we're confident our Plan priorities will enable us to continue our momentum in markets that are doing well, and rebuild in those that have struggled recently. Notably, we will aggressively pursue growth opportunities in markets with great long-term potential. China, with 1.3 billion people and a growing economy, is a perfect example.

We are committed to keeping our entire System focused on the execution of one plan, our Plan to Win, and communicating one global brand message to our customers: "i'm lovin' it."

Corporate governance

You can be assured that McDonald's will adhere to our long-standing principles of honesty and integrity in every aspect of our business.

Earlier this year, we were gratified when GovernanceMetrics International, which rates the corporate governance practices of some 2,100 companies around the world, recognized our performance by awarding McDonald's Corporation a perfect 10, one of only 22 organizations to achieve this standard. Moreover, 2003 represented the second year in a row McDonald's received the highest rating possible, placing us in an even more select group of trustworthy companies.

As Chairman, I consider it my responsibility to cultivate an independent and forward-looking Board. This means encouraging new ideas and healthy debate. It also means planning for the future through wise succession.

McDonald's strengthened its Board of Directors in 2003 with the addition of three talented business leaders—Bob Eckert, Cary McMillan and John Rogers, Jr.—who bring youth, energy and a fresh perspective to our Boardroom. Along with the other respected members of our Board, they provide important oversight to the operations and governance of McDonald's.

I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Don Lubin, Terry Savage and Bob Thurston, three outstanding outside Directors who are retiring from the Board this year. They each have played a vital role in our business, and we sincerely thank them for their dedicated service to McDonald's. At the same time, I look forward to welcoming Anne-Marie Slaughter, Dean of Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, to our Board this year. Her global insights will be a great asset.

Finally, I want to salute our former Senior Chairman Fred Turner upon his retirement from McDonald's in January of 2004 after 48 years of service.

Fred started as our founder Ray Kroc's grillman, became his right-hand man and ultimately Chairman and CEO himself. Ray created the vision of McDonald's, and Fred was the architect who designed and built the impressive organization we have become today.

Fred leaves a rich McDonald's legacy that we capture in a special article in this report. He has been our pioneer, our mentor, and our heart and soul. I am proud he will remain a part of our System as Honorary Chairman.



Left to right Charlie Bell, President and Chief Operating Officer; Jim Cantalupo, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer; and Jim Skinner, Vice Chairman

In conclusion

We view 2004 as a year of ongoing progress, a year to continue strengthening McDonald's foundation for the future. It is a year that will put us firmly on the path to sustainable, profitable growth.

Starting in 2005, our goal is annual Systemwide sales and revenue growth of 3 percent to 5 percent, annual operating income growth of 6 percent to 7 percent, and annual returns on incremental invested capital in the high teens. These goals exclude the impact of foreign currency translation.

We appreciate your support and confidence as shareholders.

I can assure you, on behalf of everyone at McDonald's, we know we have promises to keep. We will work to fulfill those commitments with energy, dedication and passion.

Sincerely,

Jim Cantalupo
Jim Cantalupo

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Shareholder
March 18, 2004

A McDonald's legend hangs up his spatula

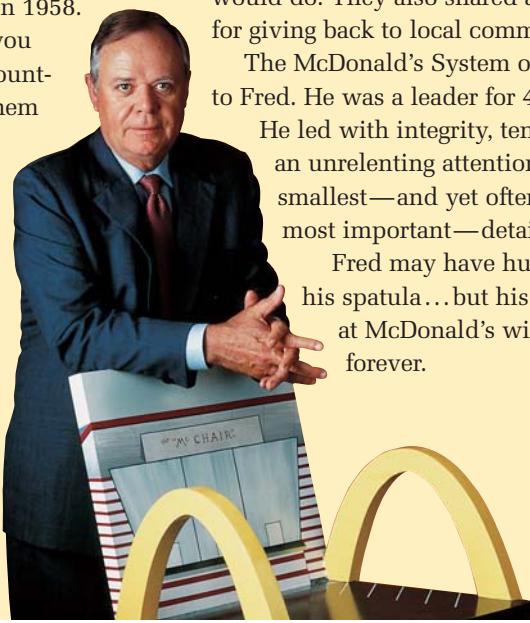
On January 26, 2004, our Senior Chairman Fred Turner retired after 48 years as one of the guiding lights of the McDonald's System. The following is a snapshot of the extraordinary career of an extraordinary man.

Fred Turner joined McDonald's as a grillman at founder Ray Kroc's first restaurant. The restaurant was in Des Plaines, Illinois. The year was 1956. The rest is a slice of McDonald's history.

Fred quickly earned a reputation as a stickler for quality. For him, attention to the smallest details came naturally.

Within months of joining McDonald's, Fred drafted a 15-page mimeographed manual on the best way to run a McDonald's restaurant, followed quickly by a 38-page update. That was followed by a then-landmark 75-page operations manual, which was printed and bound in 1958.

Fred believed that if you want to hold people accountable, you need to train them first. So it's no surprise that he was the inspiration, as well as the perspiration, behind our signature training facility—Hamburger University. The first class, 15 strong, graduated in February 1961.



Fred made things happen.

In the early 1970s, he pioneered our international development—a bold venture at that time. Little did anyone know back then that our operations outside the U.S. would one day account for more than half of McDonald's restaurants and revenues.

Fred's accomplishments did not go unrecognized. Over the years, he held numerous leadership positions at McDonald's including President, Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board and, most recently, Senior Chairman. He, together with Ray Kroc, built McDonald's and created what has become the quick-service restaurant industry.

But those who know Fred also know the man behind the legend.

Fred was Ray Kroc's business partner, trusted friend and confidant. Both had a burning passion for the business and an unparalleled dedication to customers. Nothing less than clean restrooms, sparkling kitchens, food prepared to perfection and customers served quickly and with a smile would do. They also shared a passion for giving back to local communities.

The McDonald's System owes a lot to Fred. He was a leader for 48 years.

He led with integrity, tenacity and an unrelenting attention to the smallest—and yet often, the most important—detail.

Fred may have hung up his spatula...but his legacy at McDonald's will live on forever.



Fred Turner's career at McDonald's spanned 48 years. From top to bottom: 1] Fred as grillman circa 1957. 2] Fred and McDonald's founder Ray Kroc reviewing blueprints for a new McDonald's restaurant circa 1970. 3] Fred and his pal Ronald McDonald at the ribbon cutting ceremony of McDonald's 10,000th restaurant in 1988. 4] Fred serving drive-thru customers on Founder's Day—a day established to honor the memory of Ray Kroc—circa 1990.



Plan to Win built strong foundation in 2003

We changed the course of McDonald's business dramatically in 2003 by refocusing on the disciplines of operations excellence and marketing leadership—the hallmarks of customer satisfaction.

McDonald's performance in 2003 was a direct result of our efforts to satisfy our customers, align our System and exercise financial discipline.

Our entire System was unified by McDonald's Plan to Win—a clear set of actions involving the Company, our franchisees and our suppliers.

This Plan is aimed at making McDonald's our customers' favorite place and way to eat by implementing the key drivers of an exceptional customer experience—people, products, price, place and promotion.

It's about having well-trained, friendly **people** working in our restaurants and the right **products** at a range of affordable **prices**. It's also about showcasing our restaurants as **places** that are clean, contemporary and welcoming, as well as creating **promotions** and marketing activities that resonate with key customer groups.

McDonald's Plan to Win was designed to support our strategy of growing sales at existing restaurants, rather than growing simply by opening more restaurants. Implementation of the Plan enabled us to align our human and financial resources with our strategy for growth, and eliminate activities that were not focused on our customers or our restaurants.

Delivering results

McDonald's financial results in 2003 demonstrate that the Plan to Win is the right roadmap to direct our System's efforts.

- Systemwide sales increased 11 percent, or 5 percent excluding currency translation.
- Comparable sales increased 2.4 percent worldwide, our strongest performance since 1995.
- Total revenues increased 11 percent to \$17 billion, or 6 percent excluding currency translation.
- Restaurant margin trends improved significantly as 2003 progressed.
- Net income was \$1.5 billion or \$1.15 per share, compared with \$893 million or \$0.70 per share in 2002.

Continuing the momentum in 2004

Changing the course of our business in 2003 was just the first step in our long-term effort to create sustainable, profitable growth at McDonald's.

While we have more to do in 2004 and beyond, we are energized by our prospects and by our Plan to Win.

Putting people first

We serve about 47 million customers every day, and we are intent on improving the experience of each and every one of them.

In the long run, only exceptional service will truly differentiate McDonald's from the competition. So we are making a concerted effort to improve the friendliness, speed and accuracy of our service.

We improved our drive-thru service times in the U.S. last year, but we're committed to doing even better. We're simplifying our restaurant operations. We're using more visual menu boards to make ordering easier for customers. We're also eliminating some sizes and slow-selling items and better organizing the kitchen, front counter and drive-thru areas to improve efficiency.



Adding convenience

Customers at more than 9,300 restaurants can pay for their meals by swiping their credit/debit cards through an electronic reader.



Speeding up service

Automated beverage dispensers drop and fill the right-size drink cups as orders are keyed into the register. This simplifies operations, speeds up service and satisfies our customers better.

But speed alone isn't enough. Customers want to feel special. So we are creating a hospitality culture around the world, using a new interactive, e-learning system. To reinforce this training, we have special competitions coupled with great rewards for those who excel at their jobs.

We're also measuring the operating performance of our restaurants around the world. The standards are high. The expectations are clear. The evaluation tools are consistent.

During a combination of announced and unannounced visits, field personnel grade our restaurants on a host of criteria, such as service times and procedures, as well as storage practices, equipment maintenance and restroom cleanliness. (See pages 14–15 for more about measurement.)



Mystery shoppers also grade our restaurants. During these anonymous visits, independent evaluators rate their McDonald's experience from a customer perspective.

In addition, we use customer feedback and external research to gauge operating performance and customer perceptions. Ultimately, all this information helps us improve our customers' experiences.

Having the right products at the right prices

Consumer taste preferences are changing, and we are responding by providing a variety of taste and price options.

We are promoting price and brand together with special menus that feature items at a great value. Our Dollar Menu in the U.S., EuroSaver Program in Ireland, McDeals Menu in Germany and Pound Saver Menu in the U.K. exemplify this approach. By selecting from these menus, customers can easily create their own meals, satisfy desires for quick snacks and make convenient add-on purchases.

At the same time, we're giving people more reasons to visit McDonald's with unique premium products. Such offerings include McGriddles breakfast sandwiches in the U.S. and Canada, Fish McDippers in Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan, and the Big Tasty sandwich in the U.K., Sweden and Holland.

We're also providing more choices that fit today's lifestyles.

Happy Meal offerings include selections that appeal to moms, as well as kids. For example, we currently offer Chicken Selects, no-sugar-added fruit drinks and fruit bags in the U.K.; organic milk and apple spritzers in Germany; yogurt in Brazil; and fruit juices, Apple Dippers and Chicken McNuggets made with white meat in the U.S.



Providing more choice

Mixed greens, seasoned beef, cheddar jack cheese, crispy tortilla strips, sour cream and Newman's Own® all-natural salsa create a fiesta in a bowl. Our new Fiesta Salad soon will be available throughout the U.S.

We're also appealing to moms with salad entrées and other wholesome offerings. Salads topped with warm chicken breast meat are currently available in the U.S. In Australia, many are ordering from our Salads Plus Menu, which features eight items —each with 10 grams of fat or less.

And in Europe, we're rolling out a Salads Plus program that merges the best ideas from the U.S. and Australia with local ingenuity to create a line-up of products tailored to European consumers.

Making our places showplaces

We intend to keep our restaurants fresh and contemporary as styles, colors, decors and technology change. So we are renovating, rebuilding and even relocating some of our restaurants.

We've given McDonald's a fresh edge over the competition in France and New Zealand through a concerted effort to reimagine our restaurants. Today, we have similar efforts underway around the world. These welcoming environments appeal to people whether they are dining alone, with family or with friends.

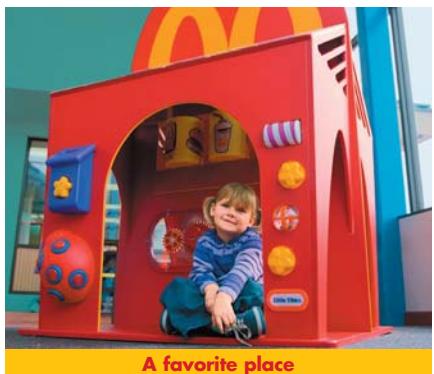


Staying contemporary

A reimaged interior adds a touch of sophistication and individualization to this restaurant in Hong Kong.



We also are expanding our relevance among the coffee crowd with McCafé—a coffee concept inside some of our restaurants. Customers can enjoy premium and specialty coffees along with a variety of pastries and muffins in a coffeehouse ambience.



A favorite place

While we're making our restaurants more contemporary for adults, we continue to keep McDonald's fun for kids.

In addition, we are addressing people's desire to stay connected while on the go with wireless technology pilot programs. Currently, customers with laptops can connect to the internet while enjoying their meals at more than 1,400 McDonald's restaurants.

Promoting our brand

The global marketplace has evolved. Customers are more sophisticated, and communications are more advanced.

We are taking advantage of this through our global "i'm lovin' it" strategy.

I'm lovin' it" is much more than a marketing campaign. It's an attitude. It's about music, entertainment, sports and fashion—and how they relate to our customers and the McDonald's experience. It's also about motivating our System's 1.5 million restaurant employees and exciting them about working for our great brand.

We are evolving "i'm lovin' it" in 2004 through communications and packaging that feature people enjoying life's simple pleasures.

In addition, Ronald McDonald will play a more prominent role in our advertising, as he appeals to people of all ages. We also are optimizing our advertising spending to maximize our impact and placing ads in media well



Life's simple pleasures

Our new global packaging reflects a new energy for our brand and a customer focus.

beyond traditional prime-time network television to broaden our reach.

But great marketing alone isn't enough. To be truly effective, it must be accompanied by a strong dose of trust. So we continue to nurture the bonds of trust we have forged over the years. People rely on McDonald's to serve quality food, to be there in times of need and to be a leader in social responsibility. We stand ready to help our communities and will continue to take leadership positions on issues important to consumers, such as the environment and healthy, active lifestyles. (See pages 18–21 for more about social responsibility and balanced lifestyles.)

More to come

While we accomplished a lot in 2003 and have many efforts underway, there's still more to come.

We are raising the bar on our operating performance and revving up our marketing. We also continue to exercise discipline in the use of our very substantial cash flow.

We intend to remain relevant by laying an innovation pipeline in order to keep our menu, experiences and restaurant environments fresh and exciting over the long term.

We will keep McDonald's brand forever young—in how we speak to consumers and in how we deliver the McDonald's experience.

In short, we will achieve enduring profitable growth for shareholders through our Plan to Win.

People

*We're rewarding our staffs
who deliver outstanding
customer service.*



Small extra touches make lunch
at McDonald's special.

Product

We're giving people more reasons to visit McDonald's by providing choices that fit their lifestyles.

Mom enjoys a salad topped with warm chicken breast meat, while the kids munch on Chicken McNuggets made with white meat and tasty Apple Dippers.



Price

We're providing value that appeals to a broad spectrum of customers.



An early meeting at the office is off to a great start with breakfast from McDonald's.

Place

We're differentiating McDonald's by creating more contemporary environments.



This young man doesn't miss a beat, as he checks his e-mail and enjoys a Big Mac at a McDonald's equipped with wireless connectivity.

Promotion

We're delivering a consistent brand message across the globe and increasing our relevance with key consumer groups.

McDonald's and good friends are among life's simple pleasures.



Measuring performance for a better customer experience

We are more customer driven than ever before. That's why we're measuring results on a restaurant-by-restaurant basis.

We conduct field visits to gauge performance from an internal perspective and use mystery shops to get a customer perspective. In fact, more than 500,000 mystery shops were conducted at our restaurants around the world in 2003.

We use this information to improve our customers' experiences.

Field trip, anyone?

We take field trips all the time. In fact, we have approximately 950 field consultants around the world. They visit and evaluate our restaurants and consult with our owner/operators to help improve operations, build sales and increase profits. Their job is one of partner, teacher, advisor and collaborator.

Beate Stein is a field consultant who oversees the operations of 23 franchised restaurants in the Hannover area of Germany. During the course of the year, she typically makes about 240 "official" restaurant visits. Some last only 45 minutes, sufficient time to assess performance from a customer perspective and share her observations with the shift manager. Others are full-day visits.



Beate Stein

For each restaurant she oversees, Beate conducts two full-day operations reviews a year—one announced, one unannounced. During these extensive reviews, the restaurant's owner/operator works alongside Beate as she evaluates operations and management systems using a checklist of more than 500 performance measures.



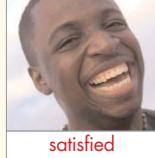
Measuring performance

Full operations reviews are invaluable in measuring performance—identifying a restaurant's strengths and opportunities.

Are the grills properly calibrated?
Are sandwiches properly assembled?
Are the restrooms clean, in good repair and fully stocked?
Are crew training needs regularly evaluated and training plans developed?
Are current promotional materials properly displayed?

These are just a few of the more than 500 performance measures that a field consultant checks during the day-long review.

Beate also spends two full days each year conducting targeted audits for each restaurant. During these visits, her consulting and collaborative skills shine. Often the operator will ask for an audit based on the restaurant's specific needs. For example, when conducting sales-building



audits, Beate thoroughly reviews the restaurant's trading area. Then, she collaborates with the owner/operator to create a plan to take advantage of opportunities and overcome challenges.

In addition, she conducts four profit and loss reviews annually with each operator, discussing the restaurant's financial performance and identifying ways to improve profitability.

Beate likes taking field trips. And the operators in Hannover like having her at their restaurants. She's their ally in driving sales and profits. In fact, a survey of operators in Germany indicated that the overwhelming majority view the extensive full operations review as an invaluable tool to help improve quality, service and cleanliness and to build McDonald's brand image.

How are we doing?

We invite you to rate your next visit to McDonald's.

Take this form and complete it in the restaurant while your experience is still fresh in your mind. When you get home, go to our interactive website—feedback.mcdonalds.com—and transfer your reactions to the online form. We will direct your comments to the management of the restaurant you visited, so they can take pride in serving you well or address any issues you may raise. But rest assured, you will be heard.

Tell us about your restaurant experience at feedback.mcdonalds.com.

Which McDonald's restaurant did you visit?

Street address Cross street, landmark

City State Country

Store number on sales receipt (if available)

Tell us some specifics about your visit.

Date Time AM PM

In restaurant Drive-thru Carryout

What did you order?

Please tell us about your experience.

Service

Friendly? Did the employees at the restaurant make you feel welcome? For example, did they smile, greet you, thank you? Yes No

Fast? Did you receive your order in a timely manner? Yes No

Accurate? Was your order correct? Yes No

Comments

Food quality

If you ordered hot food, was it hot and fresh? Yes No

If you ordered french fries, were they hot, salted and crisp? Yes No

If you ordered a salad, was it fresh? Yes No

Did your food taste good? Yes No

Comments

Cleanliness

Was the restaurant clean, inside and out? Yes No

If you used the restroom, was it clean? Yes No

Comments

Overall visit

Were you satisfied with your experience at this McDonald's today? Yes No

Comments

We appreciate your feedback and will share it with the appropriate people.

Name (optional)

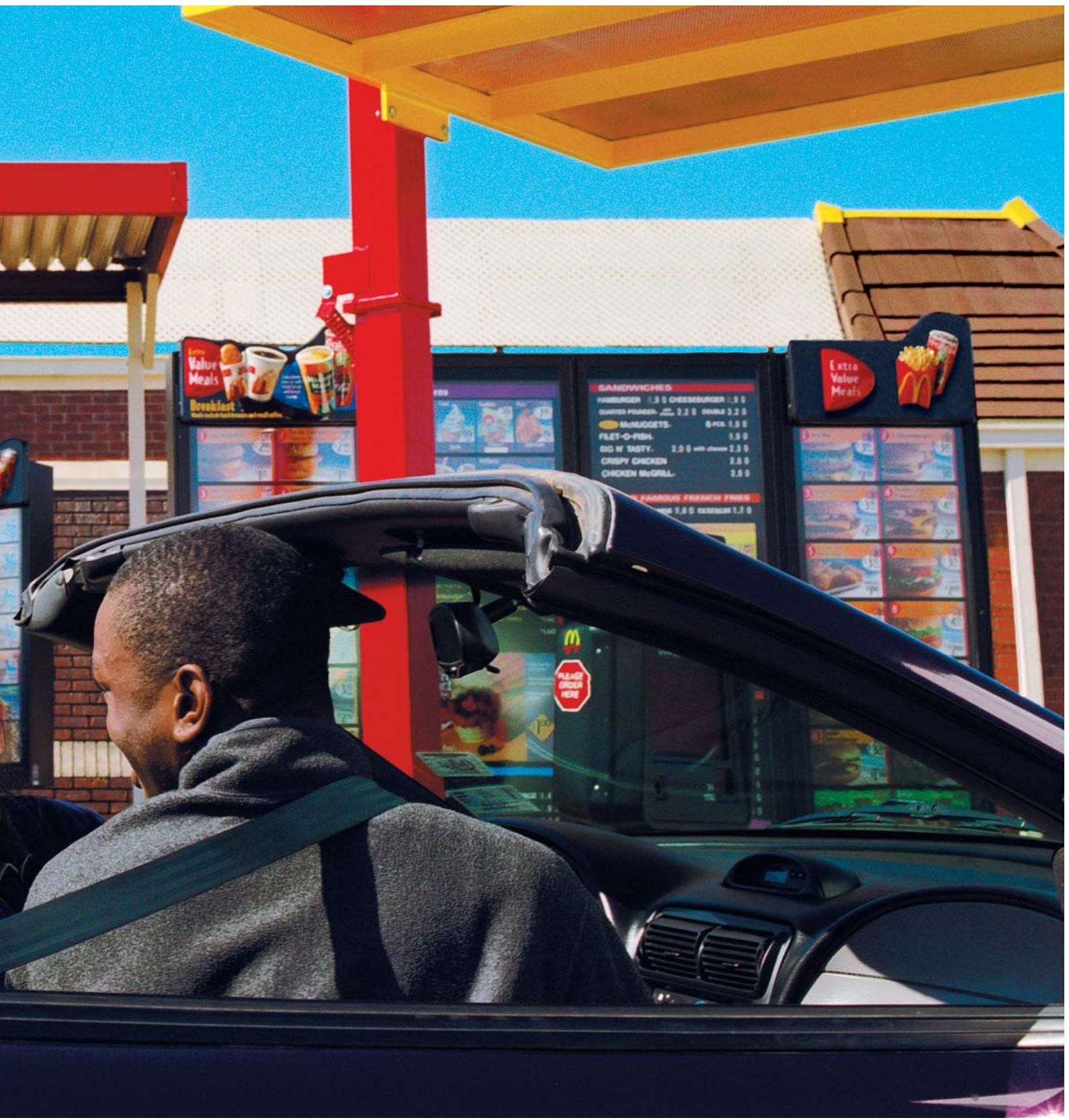
Phone number/e-mail address (optional)

thank you for your thoughtful input

Forever young

*People of all ages relate to
Ronald McDonald and the
youthful spirit he represents.
So don't be surprised if Ronald
shows up in unusual places.*





Partnering with our suppliers



Customers have confidence in McDonald's.

We value that trust and work to maintain it through our own actions and those of our suppliers. That's why we've aligned ourselves with world-class suppliers who share our uncompromising standards for safety, quality and social responsibility.

Safety & quality first

Food safety and quality are the cornerstones of our business. We have high food safety and quality control standards, meeting or surpassing food industry and government requirements. Notably, we have led the industry in requiring microbiological testing for food products.

"As a member of McDonald's International Scientific Advisory Council, I have been continually impressed with the Company's determination to 'do the right thing' in food safety. McDonald's wisely uses its leadership role to influence new, higher standards for the entire food industry."

Dr. Neil Cashman

Center for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases, University of Toronto

We also have exacting specifications for our products. For example, our buns are baked according to stringent specifications for height, weight and texture. Our lettuce and tomatoes are farm fresh. Our burgers are 100 percent pure ground beef.



In addition, our distributors use state-of-the-art equipment to ensure our products are maintained at the proper temperatures at all times. At the restaurant, they are stored and prepared in a manner that continues to ensure their integrity and quality.

What's more, we pursue continuous quality improvements with passion, constantly raising the bar on our own stringent criteria, encouraging innovation and sharing best practices throughout our supply chain.

Our dedication to safety and quality extends to our toys. For example, we use state-of-the-art technology to scientifically test the safety of our Happy Meal toys and other promotional items.

People practices

Consistent with our philosophy of treating employees right, we insist that our suppliers abide by our Code of Conduct.

We continually challenge our suppliers to find new ways to protect the health, safety and human rights of their employees. We do this through interactive training

"McDonald's has made significant strides to incorporate social responsibility into its global operations. McDonald's focuses on training its suppliers on Code of Conduct compliance across a range of important issues including health and safety, labor rights and the environment."

Rev. David M. Schilling
Director, Global Corporate Accountability Program, Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility

sessions and through external monitors who conduct periodic inspections of facilities that make products for McDonald's. In 2003, suppliers from more than 70 countries attended our training sessions, and third-party compliance audits were conducted in all areas of the world.

Animal welfare & beyond

McDonald's was the first in the industry to organize an Animal Welfare Council of preeminent, independent experts to provide us with advice and recommendations in this area. We also led our industry in implementing animal welfare guidelines, supported by audits for suppliers' abattoir facilities, to ensure good handling practices.

More recently, we joined forces with a variety of experts — including animal welfare scientists, veterinarians, physicians, suppliers and environmental leaders — to create McDonald's Global Policy on Antibiotics Use in Animal Agriculture. Adopted this past June, the policy addresses growing concerns about antibiotic resistance. It requires suppliers with whom we have direct relationships, primarily poultry suppliers, to phase out growth-promotion uses of antibiotics approved for use in human medicine. The phase-out must be completed by the end of 2004.

"Preserving the efficacy of life-saving antibiotics is critical for our health. Working together, McDonald's and Environmental Defense leveraged the Company's purchasing power to reduce antibiotics use in poultry, beef and pork production, helping to ensure antibiotics will remain effective for humans."

Fred Krupp
President, Environmental Defense

Environmental stewardship

We protect the environment with the goal of moving toward sustainability. This means conserving natural resources so that they will be available for future generations.

"McDonald's efforts continue to demonstrate the depth of its commitment to bring innovative and pragmatic solutions to the world's conservation challenges. By implementing conservation purchasing preferences for fish and agricultural products, McDonald's can become a positive force for biodiversity."

Glenn Prickett
Executive Director, The Center for Environmental Leadership in Business, Conservation International

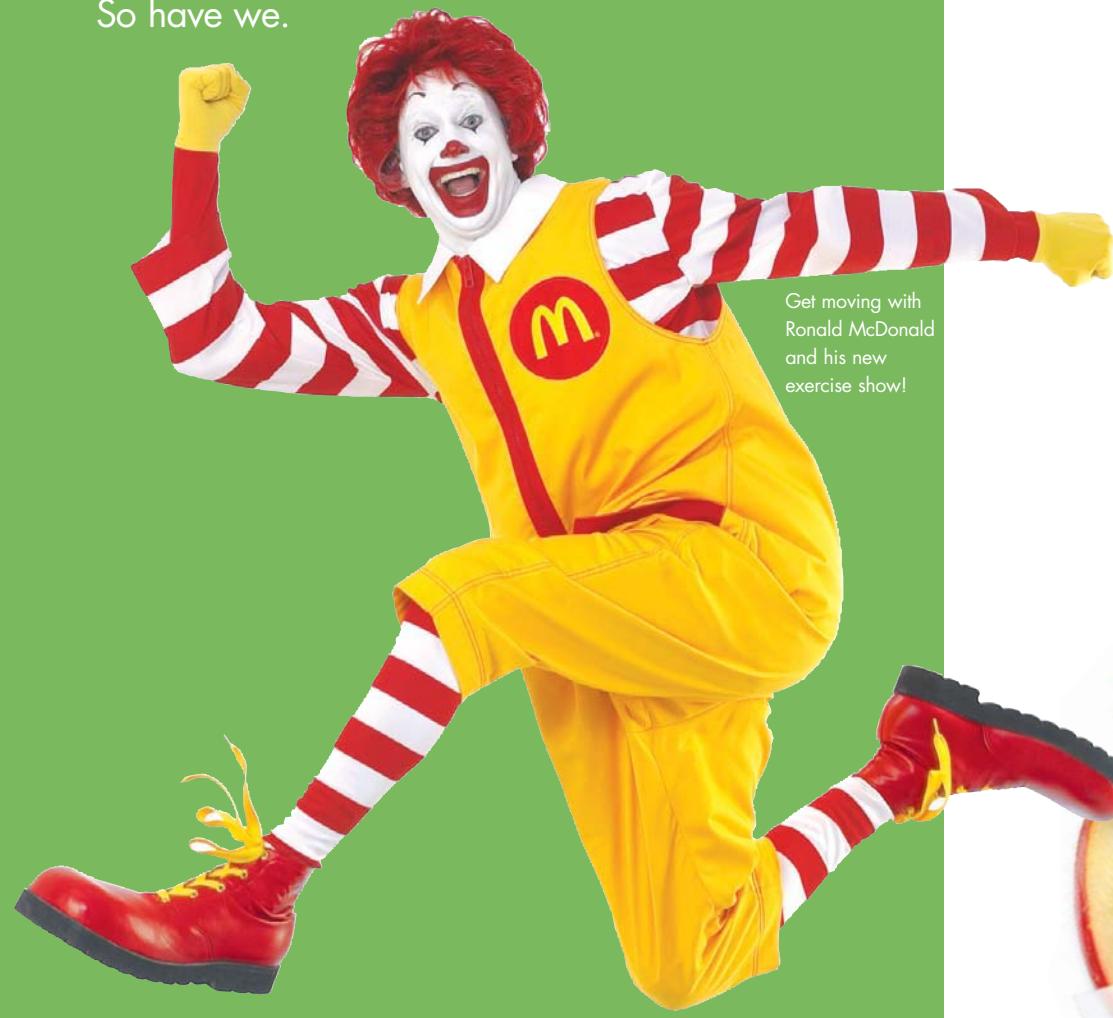
On this front, we've teamed up with our suppliers and Conservation International, a leading biodiversity non-governmental organization, to establish a strategic framework, measures and performance goals for continuously enhancing environmental stewardship within our supply chain. One effort currently underway involves the creation of McDonald's Fisheries Standards, a roadmap to facilitate the sourcing of fish products for our restaurants from sustainable fisheries.



Living a balanced lifestyle

People have become increasingly interested in leading active lives, and they recognize the role that nutrition and fitness play in their well being.

So have we.



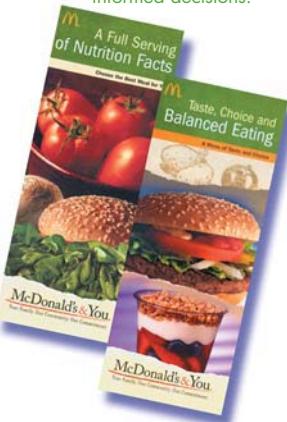
Offering variety

Our goal is to make it easy for people to satisfy their individual taste preferences at McDonald's.

We feature a variety of quality foods on our menu. In fact, we use many of the same trusted brands that people purchase to prepare meals at home, such as Minute Maid, Kraft, Tyson, Dannon, Nestlé and Newman's Own®. In addition, we're addressing evolving preferences with our premium salads in the U.S., Salads Plus Menus in Australia and Europe and, in many countries, expanded Happy Meal offerings that appeal to moms as well as kids.



McDonald's nutrition brochures are designed to help customers make informed decisions.



Providing the facts

For more than 30 years, we have been providing nutrition and ingredient information for our products. That information is even more accessible today through vehicles such as brochures, trayliners, our website and our customer service center. In fact, by going to a special interactive page on our U.S. website, called *Bag a McMeal*, consumers can find nutrition and calorie information associated with different McDonald's meal combinations. In addition, people trying to cut calories, fat or carbohydrates can access online suggestions about what to order at our restaurants.

Working with experts

Last year, we formed a global advisory council of experts on fitness, nutrition and active lifestyles. This independent group is helping to guide us on activities and programs that address the growing desire for balanced lifestyles.

Getting physical

Many people are not as active as they once were and are looking for new ways to stay fit.

For years, McDonald's has been an ardent supporter of active lifestyles through a variety of global and local sponsorships. These include the Olympic Games, World Cup Soccer and McDonald's All American High School Basketball Games. We also have been the proud supporter of neighborhood sports teams



During May, adult Happy Meals will be available in the U.S.

around the world, and continue to seek new and different ways to encourage people to incorporate exercise into their daily routines.

Tips for staying fit

Don't skip breakfast. It gives your metabolism a jump-start for the day.

Get active through simple things throughout the day.

Take the stairs.

Exercise will give you the energy you need to do what you want to do.

Just three minutes of physical activity—brisk walking, jumping rope, vacuuming, biking—10 times a day can add up to a full workout.

Eat at least three servings of vegetables a day.

American Academy of Pediatrics, Ronald is teaching kids of all ages about the importance of incorporating fitness and physical activity into their everyday lives.

We also are reaching kids with important lifestyle messages with a claymation cartoon developed with the Society For Nutrition Education. Originally aired in the early 1990s, *What's on Your Plate* with Willie Munchright tells kids about good nutrition and exercise



Willie Munchright translates nutrition and fitness recommendations into language that's easy for kids to "digest."

in a fun and entertaining way. Still relevant today, Willie Munchright often can be found sharing his good advice in vignettes aired during popular children's programs in the U.S. and other countries.

Directors & corporate officers

Fred Turner
Honorary Chairman

June Martino
Honorary Director

Board of Directors

Hall Adams, Jr.

Charles Bell

Edward Brennan

James Cantalupo

Chairman

Robert Eckert

Enrique Hernandez, Jr.

Jeanne Jackson

Donald Lubin

Walter Massey

Andrew McKenna

Cary McMillan

John Rogers, Jr.

Roger Stone

Robert Thurston

Corporate Officers

Pictured on page 3 —

Charles Bell
President and
Chief Operating Officer

James Cantalupo
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer

James Skinner
Vice Chairman

Pictured on page 16 —

Ronald McDonald
Chief Happiness Officer

Top photo, left to right —

Michael Roberts
President—U.S.A.

Ralph Alvarez
Chief Operations Officer—
U.S.A.

Donald Thompson
President—U.S. West Division

Janice Fields
President—U.S. Central Division

Timothy Fenton
President—U.S. East Division

Jeffrey Stratton
Chief Restaurant Officer—U.S.A.

Middle photo, left to right —

Claire Babrowski
Chief Restaurant Operations
Officer

Jose Armario
President—Latin America

Marvin Whaley
President—Asia, Middle East
and Africa

Lynn Crump-Caine
Worldwide Operations and
Systems Officer

Russell Smyth
President—Europe

Bottom photo, left to right —

David Pojman
Corporate Controller

Matthew Paull
Chief Financial Officer

Gloria Santona
General Counsel and
Corporate Secretary

Richard Floersch
Chief Human Resources Officer

Larry Light
Chief Marketing Officer

Mats Lederhausen
Managing Director, Ventures



As of March 18, 2004



Investor information & services

Calling crew alumni

We are creating a list of crew alumni.

If you once worked at a McDonald's restaurant, please e-mail information about yourself and your McDonald's work experience to **mcopportunity@mcd.com**.

Be sure to include your name, mailing and e-mail addresses, the year(s) you worked at McDonald's, the restaurant at which you worked and what you're currently doing.

Account inquiries and online transactions

Transfer agent, registrar and McDDirect Shares Administrator

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P.O. Box 43074

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Ronald McDonald
House Charities
1-630-623-7048

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McDirect Shares is our direct stock purchase plan, through which investors may purchase McDonald's common stock and reinvest dividends.

www.mcdonalds.equiserve.com

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to obtain a copy via mail

1-630-623-0172
to obtain a copy via fax

Website

www.mcdonalds.com

Trading symbol

MCD

Stock exchange listings

New York, Chicago, Euronext
Paris, German and Swiss

Annual meeting

May 20, 2004
9:00 a.m. Central Time
The Lodge
McDonald's Office Campus
Oak Brook IL 60523
Live webcast available on
www.investor.mcdonalds.com

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McDonald's 2003 annual report on Form 10-K

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McDonald's corporate governance information

www.mcdonalds.com/corp/invest/gov.htm

McDonald's social responsibility report

www.mcdonalds.com/corp/values/socialrespons.htm

Home office

McDonald's Corporation
McDonald's Plaza
Oak Brook IL 60523

The information in this report is as of December 31, 2003 unless otherwise indicated.

Forward-looking statements

This report contains certain forward-looking statements that reflect management's expectations regarding future events and operating performance and speak only as of March 18, 2004, unless otherwise indicated. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties. A list of the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in, or underlying, our forward-looking statements are detailed in the Company's 10-K and 10-Q filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Trademarks

The following trademarks used herein are the property of McDonald's Corporation and its affiliates: 1-800-Mc1-STCK; Big Mac; Big Tasty; Big Red French Fry Box Design; Chicken McGrill; Chicken McNuggets; Chicken Selects; Fish McDippers; Get Moving With Ronald McDonald; Go Active; The Golden Arches Logo; Hamburger University; Happy Meal; i'm lovin' it; Made For You; McCafé; McDeals; McDDirect Shares; McDonald's; McDonald's All American High School Basketball Game; McDonald's Golden Arches @ Logo; McGriddles; RMHC; Ronald; Ronald McDonald Name and Design; Ronald McDonald Care Mobile; Ronald McDonald House; Ronald McDonald House Charities; Salads Plus; What's On Your Plate; Willie Munchright; www.mcdonalds.com

Product names and descriptions are country specific and may not be applicable worldwide. Prices and marketing initiatives pertain only to participating restaurants.

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McD 03-4286



A helping hand

An unlikely partnership was formed in 1974 when an NFL team, a children's hospital and McDonald's joined forces in Philadelphia to provide a home-away-from-home for families of seriously ill children. The result was the first Ronald McDonald House.

Ten years later, with the Ronald McDonald House program as its cornerstone, Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) was founded. Its mission: to create, find and support programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children worldwide. Today, more than 180 RMHC Chapters in nearly 50 countries reach out to provide creative solutions to children's issues.

In addition to providing families with temporary lodging near hospitals where their children are being treated, RMHC helps fund a variety of worthy causes.

For example, RMHC brings urgently needed health and dental care to children in underserved communities through the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program. It supports programs to prevent child abuse and teen suicide. RMHC also helps provide food, shelter and education for abandoned children; fund the medical treatment necessary to give children with facial deformities a reason to smile again; and heal children

traumatized by physical and sexual abuse, alcohol and drug dependency, loss, illness and disabilities. In addition, RMHC funds scholarships for college freshmen and supports programs that bring the arts back into schools.

To date, RMHC and its local network of Chapters have made grants in excess of \$380 million to children's organizations around the world. McDonald's Corporation supports in part the management and general expenses of the Charity's global office, including use of our facilities, equipment and materials. We also defray some of the costs associated with fund-raising activities and program services. Additional funding and volunteer support are provided by other corporations and a host of individuals, including McDonald's employees, owner/operators and suppliers, as well as our customers around the world.

One of the Charity's greatest supporters was Joan Kroc, the wife of McDonald's founder. Over the years she donated more than \$180 million to RMHC and individual Ronald McDonald Houses. While Joan passed away in 2003, her caring lives on through countless philanthropic efforts. The world has lost a true humanitarian, and McDonald's has lost a true friend. She will be missed.

We are proud to support RMHC, a charity that has been listed among "America's 100 Best Charities" by *Worth* magazine. More important, we are proud of the positive impact RMHC has had on the lives of millions of children around the world.



What a great way to start the day!



Breakfast at McDonald's is better than ever since McGriddles were added to the menu in the U.S. and Canada.

These hearty sandwiches feature breakfast platter favorites served between two warm griddle cakes that have the taste of maple syrup baked right in.

So now, customers can have it all — bacon, egg and cheese; sausage, egg and cheese; or sausage — and delicious griddle cakes all in one great-tasting sandwich.



McDonald's Corporation
McDonald's Plaza
Oak Brook IL 60523
www.mcdonalds.com



2003 Financial Report



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McDONALD'S ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K

Shareholders may obtain a copy of the Company's 2003 Annual Report to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on Form 10-K by going to the investor section of McDonald's website at www.mcdonalds.com, by going to the SEC's website at www.sec.gov or by calling us at 1-630-623-7428. This information is also available at no charge by sending a request to the Company's Investor Relations Service Center, Department 300, Kroc Drive, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523.

HOME OFFICE

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McDonald's Plaza
Oak Brook IL 60523
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www.mcdonalds.com

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11-YEAR SUMMARY

DOLLARS IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993
Company-operated sales	\$12,795	11,500	11,041	10,467	9,512	8,895	8,136	7,571	6,863	5,793	5,157
Franchised and affiliated revenues	\$ 4,345	3,906	3,829	3,776	3,747	3,526	3,273	3,116	2,932	2,528	2,251
Total revenues	\$17,140	15,406	14,870	14,243	13,259	12,421	11,409	10,687	9,795	8,321	7,408
Operating income	\$ 2,832⁽¹⁾	2,113 ⁽²⁾	2,697 ⁽³⁾	3,330	3,320	2,762 ⁽⁴⁾	2,808	2,633	2,601	2,241	1,984
Income before taxes and cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$ 2,346⁽¹⁾	1,662 ⁽²⁾	2,330 ⁽³⁾	2,882	2,884	2,307 ⁽⁴⁾	2,407	2,251	2,169	1,887	1,676
Net income	\$ 1,471^(1,5)	893 ^(2,6)	1,637 ⁽³⁾	1,977	1,948	1,550 ⁽⁴⁾	1,642	1,573	1,427	1,224	1,083
Cash provided by operations	\$ 3,269	2,890	2,688	2,751	3,009	2,766	2,442	2,461	2,296	1,926	1,680
Capital expenditures	\$ 1,307	2,004	1,906	1,945	1,868	1,879	2,111	2,375	2,064	1,539	1,317
Treasury stock purchases	\$ 439	687	1,090	2,002	933	1,162	765	605	321	500	628
Financial position at year end:											
Total assets	\$25,525	23,971	22,535	21,684	20,983	19,784	18,242	17,386	15,415	13,592	12,035
Total debt	\$ 9,731	9,979	8,918	8,474	7,252	7,043	6,463	5,523	4,836	4,351	3,713
Total shareholders' equity	\$11,982	10,281	9,488	9,204	9,639	9,465	8,852	8,718	7,861	6,885	6,274
Shares outstanding <i>In millions</i>	1,262	1,268	1,281	1,305	1,351	1,356	1,371	1,389	1,400	1,387	1,415
Per common share:											
Net income—basic	\$ 1.16^(1,5)	.70 ^(2,6)	1.27 ⁽³⁾	1.49	1.44	1.14 ⁽⁴⁾	1.17	1.11	.99	.84	.73
Net income—diluted	\$ 1.15^(1,5)	.70 ^(2,6)	1.25 ⁽³⁾	1.46	1.39	1.10 ⁽⁴⁾	1.15	1.08	.97	.82	.71
Dividends declared	\$.40	.24	.23	.22	.20	.18	.16	.15	.13	.12	.11
Market price at year end	\$ 24.83	16.08	26.47	34.00	40.31	38.41	23.88	22.69	22.56	14.63	14.25
Company-operated restaurants	8,959	9,000	8,378	7,652	6,059	5,433	4,887	4,294	3,783	3,216	2,733
Franchised restaurants	18,132	17,864	17,395	16,795	15,949	15,086	14,197	13,374	12,186	10,944	9,918
Affiliated restaurants	4,038	4,244	4,320	4,260	4,301	3,994	3,844	3,216	2,330	1,739	1,476
Total Systemwide restaurants	31,129	31,108	30,093	28,707	26,309	24,513	22,928	20,884	18,299	15,899	14,127
Franchised and affiliated sales⁽⁷⁾	\$33,137	30,026	29,590	29,714	28,979	27,084	25,502	24,241	23,051	20,194	18,430

(1) Includes pretax charges (substantially all noncash) of \$408 million (\$323 million after tax or \$0.25 per share) primarily related to the disposition of certain non-McDonald's brands and asset/goodwill impairment. See other operating expense, net note to the consolidated financial statements for further details.

(2) Includes pretax charges of \$853 million (\$700 million after tax or \$0.55 per share) primarily related to restructuring certain international markets and eliminating positions, restaurant closings/asset impairment and the write-off of technology costs. (The cash portion of these charges was approximately \$100 million after tax.) See other operating expense, net note to the consolidated financial statements for further details.

(3) Includes pretax operating charges of \$378 million primarily related to the U.S. business reorganization and other global change initiatives, and restaurant closings/asset impairment as well as net pretax nonoperating income of \$125 million primarily related to a gain on the initial public offering of McDonald's Japan, for a total pretax expense of \$253 million (\$143 million after tax or \$0.11 per share). (The cash portion of this net expense was approximately \$100 million after tax.) See other operating expense, net note to the consolidated financial statements for further details. Net income also reflects an effective tax rate of 29.8 percent, primarily due to the benefit of tax law changes in certain international markets (\$147 million).

(4) Includes pretax charges of \$322 million (\$219 million after tax or \$0.16 per share) consisting of \$162 million of Made For You costs and \$160 million related to a home office productivity initiative.

(5) Includes a \$37 million after-tax charge (\$0.03 per share) to reflect the cumulative effect of the adoption of SFAS No. 143 "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations," which requires legal obligations associated with the retirement of long-lived assets to be recognized at their fair value at the time the obligations are incurred. See summary of significant accounting policies note to the consolidated financial statements for further details.

(6) Includes a \$99 million after-tax charge (\$0.08 per share—basic and \$0.07 per share—diluted) to reflect the cumulative effect of the adoption of SFAS No. 142 "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," which eliminates the amortization of goodwill and instead subjects it to annual impairment tests. See summary of significant accounting policies note to the consolidated financial statements for further details. Adjusted for the nonamortization provisions of SFAS No. 142, net income per common share would have been \$0.02 higher in 2001 and 2000 and \$0.01 higher in 1996-1999.

(7) While franchised and affiliated sales are not recorded as revenues by the Company, management believes they are important in understanding the Company's financial performance because these sales are the basis on which the Company calculates and records franchised and affiliated revenues and are indicative of the financial health of the franchisee base.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

OVERVIEW

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS

The Company primarily operates and franchises McDonald's restaurants. In addition, the Company operates certain non-McDonald's brands that are not material to the Company's overall results. Of the more than 30,000 McDonald's restaurants in over 100 countries, more than 8,000 are operated by the Company, approximately 18,000 are operated by franchisees and about 4,000 are operated by affiliates under license agreements. Regardless of who operates the restaurant, the Company generally owns the land and building or secures long-term leases for restaurant sites. This ensures long-term occupancy rights and helps control related costs.

Revenues consist of sales by Company-operated restaurants and fees from restaurants operated by franchisees and affiliates. These fees primarily include rent, service fees and/or royalties that are based on a percent of sales, with specified minimum rent payments. Fees vary by type of site, investment by the Company and local business conditions. These fees, along with occupancy and operating rights, are stipulated in franchise agreements that generally have 20-year terms.

We manage the business based on geographic segments: United States; Europe; Asia/Pacific, the Middle East and Africa (APMEA); Latin America and Canada. In addition, throughout this report we present a segment entitled "Other" that includes non-McDonald's brands. The U.S. and Europe segments account for approximately 70% of total revenues. France, Germany and the United Kingdom account for about 65% of Europe's revenues; Australia, China and Japan (a 50%-owned affiliate accounted for under the equity method) account for about 45% of APMEA's revenues; and Brazil accounts for about 40% of Latin America's revenues. These seven markets along with the U.S. and Canada are referred to as "major markets" throughout this report and comprise approximately 70% of total revenues.

In analyzing business trends, management considers a variety of performance and financial measures including Systemwide sales growth, comparable sales growth and Company-operated margins. Systemwide sales include sales by all restaurants, whether operated by the Company, by franchisees or by affiliates. While sales by franchisees and affiliates are not recorded as revenues by the Company, management believes the information is important in understanding the Company's financial performance because they are the basis on which the Company calculates and records franchised and affiliated revenues and are indicative of the financial health of our franchisee base. Comparable sales are a key performance indicator used within the retail industry and are indicative of acceptance of the Company's initiatives as well as local economic and consumer trends. Increases or decreases in comparable sales represent the percent change in constant currency sales from the same

period in the prior year for all Systemwide restaurants in operation at least thirteen months. Constant currency results exclude the effects of foreign currency translation and are calculated by translating current year results at prior year average exchange rates. Management reviews and analyzes business results in constant currencies and bases certain compensation plans on these results because the Company believes they better represent the underlying business trends.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND 2003 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

In 2001 and 2002, the Company's results reflected a focus on growth through adding new restaurants, with associated high levels of capital expenditures and increasing levels of debt financing. This strategy, combined with challenging economic conditions and increased competition in certain key markets, adversely affected results and returns on investment.

In 2003, the Company introduced a comprehensive revitalization plan to increase McDonald's relevance to today's consumers as well as improve our financial discipline. We redefined our strategy to emphasize growth through adding more customers to existing restaurants. In line with this, we took a more disciplined approach to capital allocation and put a greater emphasis on controlling expenses. We aligned the System around our customer-focused Plan to Win, designed to deliver operational excellence and leadership marketing. This Plan contains aggressive goals and measures for success based on the five drivers of exceptional customer experiences—people, products, place, price and promotion.

Our near-term goal was to fortify the foundation of our business. Our long-term goal is to create a differentiated customer experience—one that builds brand loyalty—and enables us to deliver attractive top- and bottom-line growth and returns on a sustained basis. For 2005 and beyond, McDonald's is targeting annual Systemwide sales and revenue growth of 3 percent to 5 percent, annual operating income growth of 6 percent to 7 percent and annual returns on incremental invested capital in the high teens. (Return on incremental invested capital is the change in operating income plus depreciation divided by the change in gross assets.) These targets exclude the impact of foreign currency translation.

We made significant progress in 2003 in operational excellence and leadership marketing. We improved our core menu and added several successful new products. We used more consistent, rigorous measurements such as evaluations by Company personnel, independent mystery shoppers and customer research to evaluate restaurant performance. Using this information, along with enhanced training and other processes, we have strengthened our operations. We have expanded our everyday value offerings, attracting more customer visits. We began to create more relevant

restaurant environments by updating, rebuilding and relocating some of our restaurants. We also introduced our first global marketing strategy, embodied by the "I'm lovin' it" theme, which emphasizes more contemporary music and images and is connecting with both our customers and our employees.

From a financial perspective, our results also improved in 2003. In concert with the Company's strategic shift to emphasize growth from existing restaurants, management is focusing in particular on comparable sales and Company-operated margin trends, both of which gained momentum during the year. Performance in the U.S. was impressive, with robust annual comparable sales and margin increases. In Europe, while comparable sales were slightly negative for the year, they improved sequentially each quarter, as did Company-operated margins, compared with the prior year. APMEA's comparable sales and Company-operated margins declined for the year, but both showed significant improvement in the second half.

As part of the Company's revitalization plan, we eliminated projects not directly affecting our customers' experience and narrowed non-McDonald's brand activities. These actions along with the write down of a portion of our goodwill and restaurant assets resulted in the Company recording \$408 million of pretax charges (primarily noncash) in 2003.

Highlights from the year included:

- Comparable sales increased 2.4%, a significant improvement over the 2.1% decline in 2002.
- Consolidated revenues increased 11% to a new record high of \$17 billion. Excluding the positive impact of currency translation, revenues increased 6%.
- Systemwide sales increased 11%. Excluding the positive impact of currency translation, Systemwide sales increased 5%.
- Net income per common share totaled \$1.15, compared with \$0.70 in 2002.
- Company-operated margins as a percent of sales improved 10 basis points, progressing toward our goal of increasing margins by 35 basis points per year beginning in 2005.
- Cash from operations increased \$400 million to \$3.3 billion, primarily driven by higher sales at existing restaurants and stronger foreign currencies.
- Capital expenditures were reduced by \$700 million to \$1.3 billion.
- Debt pay-down totaled approximately \$900 million.
- The annual dividend increased 70% to more than \$500 million.
- Share repurchases totaled about \$440 million.

OUTLOOK FOR 2004

We expect 2004 to be a year of ongoing progress in operational excellence, leadership marketing and key financial metrics. We will continue to focus our revitalization efforts on improving our customers' experiences by providing better service, enhancing food taste, menu variety and value offerings, and creating more relevant marketing. While we are confident in our plans for 2004, we also are conscious of the challenges we face. For example, we must continue to deliver solid results in the U.S., a very competitive marketplace, despite sequentially more difficult sales comparisons. We believe that the combination of initiatives that benefited our U.S. business in 2003 will continue to create positive momentum in 2004.

Outside the U.S., some key markets must increase customer relevance, while others have economic challenges. We believe that we are in a better position to overcome these issues today than we have been for some time. Our plan is to leverage successes in the U.S. and other markets like Australia—such as more relevant menus, strong value platforms, creative marketing and better restaurant-level execution—to improve results in additional markets around the world.

While the Company does not provide specific guidance on earnings per share, the following information is provided to assist in analyzing the Company's results.

- > Changes in constant currency Systemwide sales are driven by restaurant unit expansion and changes in comparable sales. The Company expects net restaurant additions to add approximately one percentage point to sales and operating income growth in 2004 (in constant currencies). Most of this anticipated growth will result from restaurants opened in 2003. The Company does not provide specific guidance on changes in comparable sales. However, as a perspective, assuming no change in cost structure a one percentage point increase in U.S. comparable sales would impact annual earnings per share by about 2 cents. Similarly, an increase of one percentage point in Europe's comparable sales would impact annual earnings per share by about 1.5 cents.
- > The Company expects full year 2004 selling, general & administrative expenses to be relatively flat to up slightly in constant currencies and to decline as a percent of revenues and Systemwide sales, compared with 2003. However, due to the timing of certain expenses, the Company expects selling, general & administrative expenses to increase in the first half of 2004 and to decline in the second half, compared with 2003.
- > A significant part of the Company's operating income is from outside the U.S., and more than 70% of its total debt is denominated in foreign currencies. Accordingly, earnings are affected by changes in foreign currency exchange rates, particularly the Euro and the British Pound. If the Euro and the British Pound both move 10% in the same direction (compared with 2003 average rates),

the Company's annual earnings per share would change by about 5 cents to 6 cents. In 2003, foreign currency translation benefited earnings per share by 7 cents.

- > For 2004, the Company expects its net debt principal repayments to be approximately \$400 million to \$700 million. However, despite lower average debt balances, the Company expects interest expense to be relatively flat compared with 2003 due to stronger foreign currencies.
- > The Company expects the effective income tax rate for 2004 to be between 32.5% and 33.5%.

- > The Company expects capital expenditures for 2004 to be approximately \$1.5 billion to \$1.6 billion.
- > The Company expects to return about \$1 billion to shareholders through dividends and share repurchases in 2004.

A number of factors can affect our business, including effectiveness of operating initiatives and changes in global and local business and economic conditions. These and other risks are noted in the Forward-looking statements at the end of Management's discussion and analysis.

CONSOLIDATED OPERATING RESULTS

Operating results

DOLLARS IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA	2003		2002		2001
	Amount	Increase/ (decrease)	Amount	Increase/ (decrease)	Amount
Revenues					
Sales by Company-operated restaurants	\$12,795	11%	\$11,500	4%	\$11,041
Revenues from franchised and affiliated restaurants	4,345	11	3,906	2	3,829
Total revenues	17,140	11	15,406	4	14,870
Operating costs and expenses					
Company-operated restaurants	11,006	11	9,907	5	9,454
Franchised restaurants	938	12	840	5	800
Selling, general & administrative expenses	1,833	7	1,713	3	1,662
Other operating expense, net	531	(36)	833	nm	257
Total operating costs and expenses	14,308	8	13,293	9	12,173
Operating income					
Interest expense	388	4	374	(17)	452
McDonald's Japan IPO gain				nm	(137)
Nonoperating expense, net	98	27	77	48	52
Income before provision for income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting changes	2,346	41	1,662	(29)	2,330
Provision for income taxes	838	25	670	(3)	693
Income before cumulative effect of accounting changes	1,508	52	992	(39)	1,637
Cumulative effect of accounting changes, net of tax	(37)	nm	(99)	nm	
Net income	\$ 1,471	65%	\$ 893	(45)%	\$ 1,637
Per common share-diluted:					
Income before cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$ 1.18	53%	\$.77	(38)%	\$ 1.25
Cumulative effect of accounting changes	(.03)	nm	(.07)	nm	
Net income	\$ 1.15	64%	\$.70	(44)%	\$ 1.25

nm Not meaningful.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

In 2003, the Company eliminated projects not directly impacting its customers' experience, narrowed its non-McDonald's brand activities, aligned its System around a single action plan (Plan to Win), and reestablished McDonald's marketing leadership through the introduction of its first ever global brand strategy embodied by the "i'm lovin' it" theme. These actions were consistent with management's strategy of concentrating the Company's capital and resources on the best near-term opportunities and avoiding those that distract from restaurant-level execution.

In 2002, the Company initiated actions designed to optimize restaurant operations and improve the business. They included the restructuring of certain international markets, the closing of a significant number of underperforming restaurants, the decision to terminate a long-term technology project, and the consolidation of certain home office facilities and elimination of positions to control costs, streamline operations and reallocate resources.

In 2001, the Company also implemented structural changes and restaurant initiatives, primarily in the U.S. The changes included streamlining operations by reducing the number of U.S. regions and divisions, enabling the Company to combine staff functions and improve efficiency.

The Company recorded charges associated with certain of the above actions as "special items." Special items generally represent actions or transactions related to the implementation of strategic initiatives of the Company, items that are unusual or infrequent in nature (such as the dispositions of certain non-McDonald's brands in 2003 and the Japan IPO

gain in 2001), and charges resulting from annual goodwill and asset impairment testing. McDonald's management does not include these items when reviewing business performance trends because they do not believe these items are indicative of expected ongoing results.

On a pretax basis, the Company recorded \$408 million of special charges in 2003, \$853 million of special charges in 2002 and \$253 million of special items in 2001. All special items were recorded in other operating expense, except as noted in the discussion that follows.

Special items—expense/(income)

IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA	Pretax			After tax ⁽²⁾			Per common share—diluted		
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2001
Restructuring	\$272	\$267	\$ 200	\$183	\$244	\$ 136	\$.14	\$.19	\$.11
Restaurant closings/asset impairment	136	402	135	140	336	107	.11	.26	.08
Other		184	55		120	37		.10	.03
McDonald's Japan IPO gain			(137)			(137)			(.11)
Total special items ⁽¹⁾	\$408	\$853	\$ 253	\$323	\$700	\$ 143	\$.25	\$.55	\$.11

(1) See other operating expense, net note to the consolidated financial statements for a summary of the activity in the related liabilities. The Company expects to use cash provided by operations to fund the remaining employee severance and lease obligations associated with the special charges.

(2) Certain special items were not tax-effected.

Restructuring

In 2003, the Company recorded \$272 million of pretax charges consisting of: \$237 million related to the loss on the sale of Donatos Pizzeria, the closing of all Donatos and Boston Market restaurants outside the U.S. and the exit of a domestic joint venture with Fazoli's; and \$35 million related to revitalization plan actions of McDonald's Japan, including headcount reductions, the closing of Pret A Manger stores in Japan, and the early termination of a long-term management services agreement.

In 2002, the Company recorded \$267 million of net pretax charges consisting of: \$201 million related to the anticipated transfer of ownership in five countries in the Middle East and Latin America to developmental licensees and ceasing operations in two countries in Latin America; \$81 million primarily related to eliminating approximately 600 positions (about half of which were in the U.S. and half of which were in international markets), reallocating resources and consolidating certain home office facilities to control costs; and a \$15 million favorable adjustment to the 2001 restructuring charge due to lower employee-related costs than originally anticipated. Under the developmental license business structure, which the Company successfully employs in about 30 markets outside the U.S. (approximately 400 restaurants), the licensee owns the business, including the real estate interest. While the Company generally does not have any capital invested in these markets, it receives a royalty based on a percent of sales.

In 2001, the Company recorded \$200 million of pretax restructuring charges related to initiatives designed to improve the restaurant experience, primarily in the U.S. These initiatives included streamlining operations by reducing the number of regions and divisions, enabling the Company to combine staff functions and improve efficiency. In connection with these initiatives, the Company eliminated approximately 850 positions (700 in the U.S., primarily in the divisions and regions, and 150 in international markets).

Restaurant closings/asset impairment

In 2003, the Company recorded \$136 million of net pretax charges consisting of: \$148 million primarily related to asset/goodwill impairment, mainly in Latin America; \$30 million for about 50 restaurant closings associated with strategic actions in Latin America; and a \$42 million favorable adjustment to the 2002 charge for restaurant closings, primarily due to about 85 fewer closings than originally anticipated. The lower closings were primarily due to management's reassessment of the plans as a result of the new strategic direction of the Company.

In 2002, the Company recorded \$402 million of pretax charges consisting of: \$302 million related to management's decision to close 751 underperforming restaurants primarily in the U.S. and Japan; and \$100 million primarily related to the impairment of assets for certain existing restaurants in Europe and Latin America. Most of the restaurants identified for closing had negative cash flows and/or very low annual sales volumes. Also, in many cases they would have required significant capital investment to remain financially viable.

In 2001, the Company recorded \$135 million of pretax charges consisting of: \$91 million related to the closing of 163 underperforming restaurants in international markets; a \$24 million asset impairment charge in Turkey; and \$20 million related to the disposition of Aroma Café in the U.K.

Although restaurant closings occur each year, these restaurant closing charges in each year were identified as "special charges" because they were the result of separate intensive reviews by management in conjunction with other strategic actions.

Other

In 2002, the Company recorded \$184 million of pretax charges consisting of: \$170 million primarily related to the write-off of software development costs as a result of management's decision to terminate a long-term technology project; and \$14 million primarily related to the write-off of receivables and inventory in Venezuela as a result of the temporary closure of all McDonald's restaurants due to a national strike. Although the terminated technology project was expected to deliver long-term benefits, it was no longer viewed as the best use of capital, as the anticipated

Systemwide cost over several years was expected to be more than \$1 billion.

In 2001, the Company recorded \$55 million of pretax charges consisting of: \$18 million primarily related to the write-off of certain technology costs; \$12 million (recorded in nonoperating expense) primarily related to the write-off of a corporate investment; and \$25 million primarily related to the unrecoverable costs incurred in connection with the theft of winning game pieces from the Company's Monopoly and certain other promotional games over an extended period of time, and the related termination of the supplier of the game pieces. Fifty individuals (none of whom were Company employees) were convicted of conspiracy and/or mail fraud charges.

McDonald's Japan IPO gain

In 2001, McDonald's Japan, the Company's 50%-owned affiliate, completed an IPO of 12 million shares. The Company recorded a \$137 million gain (pre and after tax) in nonoperating income to reflect an increase in the carrying value of its investment as a result of the cash proceeds from the IPO received by McDonald's Japan.

IMPACT OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES ON REPORTED RESULTS

While changing foreign currencies affect reported results, McDonald's lessens exposures, where practical, by financing in local currencies, hedging certain foreign-denominated cash flows, and by purchasing goods and services in local currencies.

In 2003, foreign currency translation had a positive impact on consolidated revenues, operating income and earnings per share due to the strengthening of several

major currencies, primarily the Euro. In 2002, foreign currency translation had a minimal impact on revenues as the stronger Euro and British Pound were offset by weaker Latin American currencies (primarily the Argentine Peso, Brazilian Real and Venezuelan Bolivar). Operating income in 2002 was positively impacted by foreign currency translation primarily due to the stronger Euro and British Pound.

Impact of foreign currency translation on reported results

IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA	Reported amount			Currency translation benefit (loss)		
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2001
Revenues	\$17,140	\$15,406	\$14,870	\$886	\$ 15	\$(457)
Company-operated margins ⁽¹⁾	1,695	1,513	1,525	101	29	(49)
Franchised margins ⁽¹⁾	3,405	3,064	3,028	195	39	(65)
Selling, general & administrative expenses	1,833	1,713	1,662	(68)	8	35
Operating income	2,832	2,113	2,697	189	90	(78)
Income before cumulative effect of accounting changes	1,508	992	1,637	89	42	(50)
Net income	1,471	893	1,637	89	42	(50)
Per common share—diluted:						
Income before cumulative effect of accounting changes	1.18	.77	1.25	.07	.03	(.04)
Net income	1.15	.70	1.25	.07	.04	(.04)

⁽¹⁾ Includes McDonald's restaurants only.

REVENUES

Consolidated revenue growth in 2003 was driven by stronger foreign currencies and a strong performance in the U.S. In 2002, consolidated revenue growth was driven by expansion and a higher percentage of Company-operated restaurants compared with 2001.

Revenues

DOLLARS IN MILLIONS	Amount			Increase (decrease)		Increase (decrease) excluding currency translation	
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2003	2002
<i>Company-operated sales:</i>							
U.S.	\$ 3,594	\$ 3,172	\$ 3,139	13%	1%	13%	1%
Europe	4,498	3,982	3,727	13	7	—	2
APMEA	2,158	2,115	1,938	2	9	(3)	8
Latin America	774	696	821	11	(15)	20	12
Canada	632	505	478	25	6	11	7
Other	1,139	1,030	938	11	10	10	10
Total	\$12,795	\$11,500	\$11,041	11%	4%	6%	4%
<i>Franchised and affiliated revenues:</i>							
U.S.	\$ 2,445	\$ 2,251	\$ 2,257	9%	—	9%	—
Europe	1,377	1,154	1,025	19	13%	1	6%
APMEA	289	253	265	14	(5)	—	(6)
Latin America	85	118	150	(28)	(21)	(20)	(8)
Canada	146	128	130	14	(2)	1	—
Other	3	2	2	33	—	33	—
Total	\$ 4,345	\$ 3,906	\$ 3,829	11%	2%	5%	1%
<i>Total revenues:</i>							
U.S.	\$ 6,039	\$ 5,423	\$ 5,396	11%	1%	11%	1%
Europe	5,875	5,136	4,752	14	8	—	3
APMEA	2,447	2,368	2,203	3	7	(3)	7
Latin America	859	814	971	6	(16)	14	9
Canada	778	633	608	23	4	9	6
Other	1,142	1,032	940	11	10	11	10
Total	\$17,140	\$15,406	\$14,870	11%	4%	6%	4%

In the U.S., ongoing menu, service and value initiatives drove the increase in revenues in 2003 as the U.S. achieved its highest annual comparable sales increase since 1987. These initiatives included the introduction of premium salads and McGriddles breakfast sandwiches, the Dollar Menu, extended hours, a heightened focus on operations, more disciplined measurements and a new marketing direction. Results also reflected improvement in the U.S. economy in 2003. In 2002, revenues increased slightly due to restaurant expansion. Results in 2002, in part, reflected the overall slowdown in the restaurant industry and increased competition.

In 2003 and 2002, Europe's revenues reflected strong performance in Russia driven by expansion and positive comparable sales, along with expansion in France. These results were partly offset by weak results in the U.K. and Germany, although Germany's performance improved in the second half of 2003.

In 2003 and 2002, APMEA's revenues benefited from positive comparable sales in Australia and expansion in China. Revenues were negatively affected in 2003 by weak results in Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan, compounded by consumer concerns about Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in several markets in the first half of the year. In addition, Japan had negative comparable sales for 2003 and 2002, although the market's performance improved in the fourth quarter of 2003. In 2002, revenues reflected a benefit from the restructuring of our ownership in the Philippines, effective July 2001, that resulted in the reclassification of franchised restaurants to Company-operated.

In Latin America, revenues in 2003 increased in constant currencies primarily due to a higher percentage of Company-operated restaurants. The increase in revenues in 2002 was primarily due to positive comparable sales in Brazil and expansion in Mexico.

The following tables present Systemwide sales growth rates and the increase or decrease in comparable sales.

Systemwide sales

	Increase (decrease)			Increase (decrease)		
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2001
U.S.	9%	1%	2%	9%	1%	2%
Europe	18	11	1	2	5	5
APMEA	6	(3)	(6)	(2)	(3)	3
Latin America	(4)	(17)	(3)	4	4	6
Canada	17	1	—	4	2	5
Other	10	9	61	10	9	62
Total	11%	2%	1%	5%	2%	4%

OPERATING INCOME

Consolidated operating income in 2003 included higher combined operating margin dollars, higher selling, general & administrative expenses and lower gains on sales of restaurant businesses compared with 2002. Operating income in 2002 included higher combined operating margin

Comparable sales—McDonald's restaurants

	Increase (decrease)		
	2003	2002	2001
U.S.	6.4%	(1.5)%	0.1%
Europe	(0.9)	1.0	(1.4)
APMEA	(4.2)	(8.5)	(4.8)
Latin America	2.3	1.0	(3.9)
Canada	—	(2.5)	1.3
Total	2.4%	(2.1)%	(1.3)%

Operating income

DOLLARS IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001	Amount		Increase (decrease)		excluding currency translation	
				2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002
U.S.	\$1,982	\$1,673	\$1,622	18%	3%	18%	3%	18%	3%
Europe	1,339	1,022	1,063	31	(4)	13	(8)	—	—
APMEA	226	64	325	nm	(80)	nm	(81)	—	—
Latin America	(171)	(133)	11	(28)	nm	(7)	nm	—	—
Canada	163	125	124	30	1	15	3	—	—
Other	(295)	(66)	(66)	nm	—	nm	—	—	—
Corporate	(412)	(572)	(382)	28	(50)	28	(50)	—	—
Total	\$2,832	\$2,113	\$2,697	34%	(22)%	25%	(25)%	—	—

nm Not meaningful.

dollars, higher selling, general & administrative expenses and a net loss from our Japanese affiliate compared with earnings in 2001. In all three years, the Company recorded special charges that are included in these results.

The following table presents the special charges included in operating income by segment for 2003, 2002 and 2001.

Special charges

IN MILLIONS	U.S.	Europe	APMEA	Latin America	Canada	Other	Corporate	Consolidated
2003								
Restructuring			\$ 35			\$237		\$272
Restaurant closings/asset impairment ⁽¹⁾	\$ (11)	\$ (20)	20	\$109	\$ (1)	29	\$ 10	136
Total	(11)	(20)	55	109	(1)	266	10	408
Currency translation benefit (loss)		3	(5)	(20)		(11)		(33)
Total excluding currency translation	\$ (11)	\$ (17)	\$ 50	\$ 89	\$ (1)	\$255	\$ 10	\$375
2002								
Restructuring	\$ 25	\$ 9	\$141	\$ 66	\$ 2	\$ 3	\$ 21	\$267
Restaurant closings/asset impairment	74	135	81	62	4	31	15	402
Other		4		14	4		162	184
Total	99	148	222	142	10	34	198	853
Currency translation benefit (loss)		(17)	(3)	23				3
Total excluding currency translation	\$ 99	\$131	\$219	\$165	\$10	\$ 34	\$198	\$856
2001								
Restructuring	\$156	\$ 7	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 6	\$ 5	\$ 20	\$200
Restaurant closings/asset impairment		39	35	37	4	20		135
Other	25		4				14	43
Total	181	46	42	40	10	25	34	378
Currency translation benefit (loss)		(1)	1	6				6
Total excluding currency translation	\$181	\$ 45	\$ 43	\$ 46	\$10	\$ 25	\$ 34	\$384

(1) Bracketed amounts resulted from favorable adjustments to 2002 charges primarily due to fewer than anticipated restaurant closings.

In 2003, U.S. operating income included higher combined operating margin dollars, higher selling, general & administrative expenses and higher other operating expenses (excluding special charges). U.S. operating income in 2002 included lower combined operating margin dollars, lower selling, general & administrative expenses and lower other operating income (excluding special charges).

Europe's constant currency results in 2003 and 2002 benefited from strong performances in France and Russia. However, difficult economic conditions in Germany and weak results in the U.K. negatively impacted results in both years. Despite the difficult economic conditions, Germany's performance improved in the second half of 2003.

APMEA's constant currency results in 2003 reflected strong results in Australia. However, weak results in most other markets, compounded by concerns about SARS in certain markets, negatively impacted the segment. In 2002, strong results in Australia were more than offset by weak results in Japan and Hong Kong.

Latin America's operating income in constant currencies significantly declined in both 2003 and 2002 due to the continuing difficult economic conditions experienced by several key markets in the segment. In addition, Latin America's results for both years were negatively impacted by higher provisions for uncollectible receivables. The Company is currently in litigation with about one-third of the franchisees in Brazil, which is negatively impacting the Company's results in Latin America. We expect this to continue in the near term.

OPERATING MARGINS

Operating margin information and discussions relate to McDonald's restaurants only and exclude non-McDonald's brands.

Company-operated margins

Company-operated margin dollars represent sales by Company-operated restaurants less the operating costs of these restaurants. Company-operated margin dollars increased \$182 million or 12% (5% in constant currencies) in 2003 and declined \$12 million or 1% (3% in constant currencies) in 2002. The constant currency increase in 2003 was primarily due to strong comparable sales in the U.S. The constant currency decrease in 2002 was primarily due to negative comparable sales and higher labor rates, partly offset by restaurant expansion.

Company-operated margins—McDonald's restaurants

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
U.S.	\$ 635	\$ 507	\$ 501
Europe	708	631	626
APMEA	213	239	240
Latin America	47	66	83
Canada	92	70	75
Total	\$1,695	\$1,513	\$1,525
PERCENT OF SALES			
U.S.	17.7%	16.0%	16.0%
Europe	15.7	15.9	16.8
APMEA	9.9	11.3	12.4
Latin America	6.1	9.4	10.1
Canada	14.6	13.7	15.6
Total	14.5%	14.4%	15.1%

Operating cost trends as a percent of sales were as follows: food & paper costs decreased in 2003 and 2002, payroll costs were flat in 2003 and increased in 2002, and occupancy & other operating expenses increased in both years.

The U.S. Company-operated margin percent increased in 2003 primarily due to positive comparable sales and lower payroll as a percent of sales due to improved productivity and lower wage inflation. Higher commodity costs partly offset these trends. In 2002, the U.S. Company-operated margin percent benefited from the elimination of goodwill amortization and a lower advertising contribution rate, while weak comparable sales and higher labor costs negatively impacted the margin.

In 2003, Europe's Company-operated margin percent reflected weak performance in the U.K. (which has the largest number of Company-operated restaurants in Europe), partly offset by improved margin performance in Germany and France. In 2002, Europe's Company-operated margin percent reflected higher labor costs and an increase in occupancy & other operating expenses.

Franchised margins

Franchised margin dollars represent revenues from franchised and affiliated restaurants less the Company's occupancy costs (rent and depreciation) associated with those sites. Franchised margin dollars represented more than 65% of the combined operating margins in 2003, 2002 and 2001. Franchised margin dollars increased \$341 million or 11% (5% in constant currencies) in 2003 and \$36 million or 1% (flat in constant currencies) in 2002.

Franchised margins—McDonald's restaurants

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
U.S.	\$1,945	\$1,781	\$1,799
Europe	1,044	885	792
APMEA	248	217	229
Latin America	54	79	103
Canada	114	102	105
Total	\$3,405	\$3,064	\$3,028
PERCENT OF REVENUES			
U.S.	79.5%	79.1%	79.7%
Europe	75.8	76.7	77.2
APMEA	85.6	85.8	86.2
Latin America	64.3	66.9	68.4
Canada	78.2	79.2	80.4
Total	78.4%	78.5%	79.1%

The consolidated franchised margin percent declined slightly in 2003 as positive comparable sales were offset by higher occupancy costs, due in part to an increased proportion of leased sites. The decline in the consolidated franchised margin percent in 2002 reflected negative comparable sales, higher rent assistance to franchisees primarily in the U.S. and Europe, and higher occupancy costs, due in part to an increased proportion of leased sites.

SELLING, GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Consolidated selling, general & administrative expenses increased 7% in 2003 and 3% in 2002 (3% and 4% in constant currencies). The constant currency increase in 2003 was primarily due to higher performance-based incentive compensation, as well as severance and other costs associated with the strategic decision to reduce restaurant openings. The constant currency increase in 2002 was primarily due to higher spending on technology in the Corporate segment, higher advertising expenses in the U.S. primarily related to the introduction of the Dollar Menu, and higher expenses for non-McDonald's brands.

Selling, general & administrative expenses as a percent of revenues declined to 10.7% in 2003 compared with 11.1% in 2002 and 11.2% in 2001, and selling, general & administrative expenses as a percent of Systemwide sales declined to 4.0% in 2003 compared with 4.1% in 2002

and 2001. Management believes that analyzing selling, general & administrative expenses as a percent of Systemwide sales as well as revenues is meaningful because these costs are incurred to support Systemwide restaurants.

Selling, general & administrative expenses

DOLLARS IN MILLIONS	Amount			Increase (decrease)		Increase (decrease)	
	2003	2002	2001	2003	2002	2003	2002
U.S.	\$ 567	\$ 558	\$ 563	2%	(1)%	2%	(1)%
Europe	424	359	328	18	9	2	4
APMEA	173	158	152	10	4	2	3
Latin America	102	102	126	—	(19)	8	3
Canada	54	49	51	9	(3)	(3)	(2)
Other	115	114	102	1	13	—	12
Corporate ⁽¹⁾	398	373	340	7	10	7	10
Total	\$1,833	\$1,713	\$1,662	7%	3%	3%	4%

(1) Corporate expenses consist of home office support costs in areas such as facilities, finance, human resources, information technology, legal, marketing, supply chain management and training.

OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE, NET

Other operating (income) expense, net

DOLLARS IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
Gains on sales of restaurant businesses	\$ (55)	\$ (114)	\$ (112)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates	(37)	(24)	(63)
Special charges ⁽¹⁾	408	853	378
Other expense	215	118	54
Total	\$531	\$ 833	\$ 257

(1) See other operating expense, net note to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion of the special charges and a summary of the activity in the related liabilities.

Gains on sales of restaurant businesses

Gains on sales of restaurant businesses include gains from sales of Company-operated restaurants as well as gains from exercises of purchase options by franchisees with business facilities lease arrangements (arrangements where the Company leases the businesses, including equipment, to franchisees who have options to purchase the businesses). The Company's purchases and sales of businesses with its franchisees and affiliates are aimed at achieving an optimal ownership mix in each market. Resulting gains or losses are recorded in operating income because the transactions are a recurring part of our business. The Company expects lower gains on sales of restaurant businesses in 2004 compared with 2003.

Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates

Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates—businesses in which the Company actively participates but does not control—is reported after interest expense and income taxes, except for U.S. restaurant partnerships, which are reported before income taxes. The increase in 2003 was

primarily due to strong results in the U.S. The decrease in 2002 was due to a net loss from our Japanese affiliate compared with earnings in 2001.

Other expense

Other expense in 2003 reflected higher losses on asset dispositions, higher provisions for uncollectible receivables (primarily in Latin America), and costs in the U.S. related to sites that will no longer be developed as a result of management's decision to significantly reduce capital expenditures. Other expense in 2002 reflected payments to U.S. owner/operators to facilitate the introduction of a new front counter service system and higher provisions for uncollectible receivables (primarily in Europe and Latin America), partly offset by a benefit from the elimination of goodwill amortization. The Company expects lower other expense in 2004 compared with 2003.

INTEREST EXPENSE

Interest expense increased in 2003 due to stronger foreign currencies, partly offset by lower average debt levels and interest rates. Interest expense decreased in 2002 due to lower average interest rates, partly offset by higher average debt levels and stronger foreign currencies.

NONOPERATING EXPENSE, NET

Nonoperating expense includes miscellaneous income and expense items such as interest income, minority interests, and gains and losses related to other investments, financings and foreign currency translation. Nonoperating expense in 2003 reflected an \$11 million loss on the early extinguishment of \$200 million of debt as well as higher foreign currency translation losses compared with 2002. Nonoperating expense in 2002 reflected higher minority interest expense and foreign currency translation losses in 2002 compared with foreign currency translation gains

in 2001. In addition, nonoperating expense in 2001 included \$12 million primarily related to the write-off of a corporate investment as well as minority interest expense related to the sale of real estate in Singapore.

PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES

The following table presents the reported effective income tax rates as well as the effective income tax rates before special items.

	2003	2002	2001
Reported effective income tax rates	35.7%	40.3%	29.8%
Impact of special items ⁽¹⁾	(2.2)	(7.6)	1.3
Effective income tax rates before special items	33.5%	32.7%	31.1%

(1) Certain special items were not tax-effected.

The 2001 effective income tax rate reflected a benefit from the impact of tax law changes in certain international markets.

Consolidated net deferred tax liabilities included tax assets, net of valuation allowance, of \$1,032 million in 2003 and \$867 million in 2002. Substantially all of the net tax assets arose in the U.S. and other profitable markets.

CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGES

Effective January 1, 2003, the Company adopted SFAS No. 143, *Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations*, which requires legal obligations associated with the retirement of long-lived assets to be recognized at their fair value at the time that the obligations are incurred. Effective January 1, 2002, the Company adopted SFAS No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*, which eliminates the amortization of goodwill and instead subjects it to annual impairment tests. See summary of significant accounting policies note to the consolidated financial statements for further discussion.

CASH FLOWS

The Company generates significant cash from operations and has substantial credit capacity to fund operating and discretionary spending. Cash from operations totaled \$3.3 billion and exceeded capital expenditures by \$2.0 billion in 2003, while cash from operations totaled \$2.9 billion and exceeded capital expenditures by \$0.9 billion in 2002. Cash provided by operations, along with borrowings and other sources of cash, is used for capital expenditures, debt repayments, dividends and share repurchases.

Cash provided by operations

DOLLARS IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
Cash provided by operations	\$3,269	\$2,890	\$2,688
Cash provided by operations as a percent of capital expenditures	250%	144%	141%

In addition to its cash provided by operations, the Company can meet short-term funding needs through commercial paper borrowings and line of credit agreements. Accordingly, the Company purposefully maintains a relatively low current ratio, which was .76 at year-end 2003.

RESTAURANT DEVELOPMENT AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

As a result of the Company strategically shifting its focus from adding new restaurants to building sales at existing restaurants, the Company significantly reduced capital expenditures and restaurant openings in 2003 compared with 2002 and 2001.

In 2003, the Company opened 513 traditional McDonald's restaurants and 319 satellite restaurants (small, limited-menu restaurants for which the land and building are generally leased), and closed 486 traditional restaurants and 184 satellite restaurants. In 2002, the Company opened 1,247 traditional McDonald's restaurants and 392 satellite restaurants, and closed 474 traditional restaurants and 158 satellite restaurants. About 65% of McDonald's restaurant additions occurred in the major markets in 2003.

Systemwide restaurants at year end⁽¹⁾

	2003	2002	2001
U.S.	13,609	13,491	13,099
Europe	6,186	6,070	5,794
APMEA	7,475	7,555	7,321
Latin America	1,578	1,605	1,581
Canada	1,339	1,304	1,223
Other	942	1,083	1,075
Total	31,129	31,108	30,093

(1) Includes satellite units at December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001 as follows: U.S.—1,307, 1,159, 1,004; Europe—150, 102, 63; APMEA (primarily Japan)—1,841, 1,923, 1,879; Latin America—20, 19, 46; and Canada—350, 330, 307.

In 2004, the Company expects to open about 550 traditional McDonald's restaurants and 300 satellite restaurants and close about 300 traditional restaurants and 100 satellite restaurants.

Approximately 60% of Company-operated restaurants and more than 85% of franchised restaurants were located in the major markets at the end of 2003. Franchisees and affiliates operated 73% of McDonald's restaurants at year-end 2003. Non-McDonald's brand restaurants are primarily Company-operated.

Capital expenditures decreased \$697 million or 35% in 2003 and increased \$98 million or 5% in 2002. The decrease in capital expenditures in 2003 was primarily due to lower restaurant openings, consistent with our shift in strategic focus, partly offset by stronger foreign currencies (foreign currency translation increased capital expenditures by \$73 million). The increase in 2002 was primarily due to higher spending in the U.S. and Canada, partly offset by lower capital expenditures for new restaurants in Latin America. Capital expenditures for McDonald's restaurants

in 2003, 2002 and 2001 reflected the leasing of a higher proportion of new sites and a program that gave U.S. franchisees the option to purchase new restaurant buildings.

During 2003, the Company began to phase out the option for U.S. franchisees to purchase new restaurant buildings. Consequently, the Company is currently purchasing most buildings and, as a result, collects additional rent from the franchisees.

Capital expenditures invested in major markets excluding Japan represented approximately 70% of the total in 2003 and 2002 and 60% in 2001. Japan is accounted for under the equity method, and accordingly its capital expenditures are not included in consolidated amounts.

Capital expenditures

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
New restaurants	\$ 617	\$ 1,161	\$ 1,198
Existing restaurants ⁽¹⁾	564	659	571
Other properties ⁽²⁾	126	184	137
Total	\$ 1,307	\$ 2,004	\$ 1,906
Total assets	\$25,525	\$23,971	\$22,535

(1) Includes technology to improve service and food quality and enhancements to facilities to achieve higher levels of customer satisfaction.

(2) Primarily computer equipment and furnishings for office buildings.

Capital expenditures for new restaurants decreased \$544 million or 47% in 2003 because the Company opened fewer restaurants and concentrated new restaurant investments in markets with acceptable returns or opportunities for long-term growth. While capital expenditures for existing restaurants decreased in 2003, they increased as a percentage of total capital spending. This is due to the Company's focus on growing sales at existing restaurants including reinvestment initiatives such as restaurant reimaging in several markets around the world, including the U.S.

Average development costs vary widely by market depending on the types of restaurants built and the real estate and construction costs within each market. These costs, which include land, buildings and equipment owned by the Company, are managed through the use of optimally sized restaurants, construction and design efficiencies, standardization and global sourcing. In addition, foreign currency fluctuations affect average development costs. In 2004, the Company is targeting eleven consolidated markets, including the U.S., for opening ten or more restaurants. Although the Company is not responsible for all costs on every restaurant opened, in 2003 total development costs (consisting of land, buildings and equipment) for new traditional McDonald's restaurants averaged approximately \$1.8 million in the U.S. and approximately \$1.7 million in the ten markets outside the U.S.

The Company and its affiliates owned about 37% of the land and 60% of the buildings for its restaurants at year-end 2003 and 2002.

SHARE REPURCHASES AND DIVIDENDS

During 2003, the Company acquired 18.9 million shares of McDonald's stock for approximately \$439 million under a \$5.0 billion share repurchase program authorized in 2001. Through 2003, 39.0 million shares for \$975 million have been repurchased under this program.

The Company has paid dividends on its common stock for 28 consecutive years and has increased the dividend amount every year. In 2003, the Company declared a 70% increase in the annual dividend to \$504 million, reflecting the Company's confidence in the ongoing strength and reliability of its cash flow, the positive results from its revitalization efforts and favorable changes in the U.S. tax law. As in the past, future dividends will be considered after reviewing returns to shareholders, profitability expectations and financing needs and will be declared at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Cash dividends are declared and paid on an annual basis.

FINANCIAL POSITION AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

TOTAL ASSETS AND RETURNS

Total assets grew by \$1.6 billion or 6% in 2003 and \$1.4 billion or 6% in 2002. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates increased total assets by approximately \$1.9 billion in 2003 and \$785 million in 2002. At year-end 2003 and 2002, approximately 65% of consolidated assets was located in the major markets excluding Japan. Net property and equipment rose \$1.3 billion in 2003 and represented 78% of total assets at year end.

Operating income is used to compute return on average assets, while income before the cumulative effect of accounting changes is used to calculate return on average common equity. Month-end balances are used to compute both average assets and average common equity.

Returns on assets and equity

	2003	2002	2001
Return on average assets	11.4%	9.2%	12.3%
Return on average common equity	13.3	9.8	17.5

Special charges reduced return on average assets by 1.4 percentage points in 2003, 3.6 percentage points in 2002 and 1.8 percentage points in 2001. In addition, these charges reduced return on average common equity by 2.8 percentage points in 2003, 7.0 percentage points in 2002 and 1.6 percentage points in 2001. In 2003, return on average assets and return on average common equity both began to stabilize due to strong operating results in the U.S., partly offset by continued weak operating results in most markets in APMEA and Latin America. In 2002, return on average assets and return on average common equity both declined, primarily due to weak operating results in APMEA and Latin America. During 2004, the Company will continue to concentrate McDonald's restaurant openings and new capital invested in markets with acceptable returns or opportunities for long-term growth.

FINANCINGS AND MARKET RISK

The Company generally borrows on a long-term basis and is exposed to the impact of interest rate changes and foreign currency fluctuations. Debt obligations at December 31, 2003 totaled \$9.7 billion compared with \$10.0 billion at December 31, 2002. The net decrease in 2003 was due to net payments (\$892 million) and SFAS No. 133 noncash fair value adjustments (\$44 million), partly offset by the impact of changes in exchange rates on foreign currency denominated debt (\$686 million).

Debt highlights⁽¹⁾

	2003	2002	2001
Fixed-rate debt as a percent of total debt ^(2,3)	62%	62%	45%
Weighted-average annual interest rate of total debt	4.1	4.1	5.4
Foreign currency-denominated debt as a percent of total debt ^(2,3)	71	64	57
Total debt as a percent of total capitalization (total debt and total shareholders' equity) ⁽²⁾	44	48	48
Cash provided by operations as a percent of total debt ⁽²⁾	35	30	30

(1) All percentages are as of December 31, except for the weighted-average annual interest rate, which is for the year.

(2) Based on debt obligations before the effect of SFAS No. 133 fair value adjustments.

(3) Includes the effect of interest rate and foreign currency exchange agreements.

Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch currently rate McDonald's commercial paper P-1, A-1 and F1; and its long-term debt A2, A and A, respectively. Historically the Company has not experienced difficulty in obtaining financing or refinancing existing debt. The Company's key metrics for monitoring its credit structure are shown in the preceding table. While the Company targets these metrics for ease of focus, it also looks at similar credit ratios that incorporate capitalized operating leases to estimate total adjusted debt using a multiple of eight times rent expense after considering certain adjustments to more accurately reflect its total aggregate lease commitments. These adjustments include: excluding percent rents in excess of minimum rents; excluding certain Company-operated restaurant lease agreements outside the U.S. that are cancelable with minimal penalties (representing approximately 20% of Company-operated restaurant leases outside the U.S., based on the Company's estimate); capitalizing non-restaurant leases using a multiple of three times rent expense; and reducing total rent expense by approximately half of the annual minimum rent payments due to the Company from franchisees operating on leased sites.

Certain of the Company's debt obligations contain cross-acceleration provisions and restrictions on Company and subsidiary mortgages and the long-term debt of certain subsidiaries. There are no provisions in the Company's debt obligations that would accelerate repayment of debt as a result of a change in credit ratings or a material adverse change in the Company's business. The Company has \$1.3 billion available under committed line of credit agreements (see debt financing note to the consolidated financial

statements) as well as \$1.6 billion under a U.S. shelf registration and \$607 million under a Euro Medium-Term Notes program for future debt issuance.

The Company uses major capital markets, bank financings and derivatives to meet its financing requirements and reduce interest expense. The Company manages its debt portfolio in response to changes in interest rates and foreign currency rates by periodically retiring, redeeming and repurchasing debt, terminating exchange agreements and using derivatives. The Company does not use derivatives with a level of complexity or with a risk higher than the exposures to be hedged and does not hold or issue derivatives for trading purposes. All exchange agreements are over-the-counter instruments.

In managing the impact of interest rate changes and foreign currency fluctuations, the Company uses interest rate exchange agreements and finances in the currencies in which assets are denominated. All derivatives were recorded at fair value in the Company's Consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2003 and 2002 as follows: miscellaneous other assets—\$102 million and \$134 million; other long-term liabilities (excluding interest)—\$136 million and \$39 million; and accrued payroll and other liabilities—\$29 million and \$24 million. See summary of significant accounting policies note to the consolidated financial statements related to financial instruments for additional information regarding their use and the impact of SFAS No. 133 regarding derivatives.

The Company uses foreign currency debt and derivatives to hedge the foreign currency risk associated with certain royalties, intercompany financings and long-term investments in foreign subsidiaries and affiliates. This reduces the impact of fluctuating foreign currencies on cash flows and shareholders' equity. Total foreign currency denominated debt, including the effects of foreign currency exchange agreements, was \$6.8 billion at year-end 2003 and \$6.2 billion at year-end 2002. In addition, where practical, McDonald's restaurants purchase goods and services in local currencies resulting in natural hedges.

The Company does not have significant exposure to any individual counterparty and has master agreements that contain netting arrangements. Certain of these agreements also require each party to post collateral if credit ratings fall below, or aggregate exposures exceed, certain contractual limits. At December 31, 2003, the Company was required to post collateral of \$11.6 million, and at December 31, 2002, collateral of \$2.2 million was posted by a counterparty.

The Company's net asset exposure is diversified among a broad basket of currencies. The Company's largest net asset exposures (defined as foreign currency assets less foreign currency liabilities) at year end were as follows:

Foreign currency net asset exposures

IN MILLIONS OF U.S. DOLLARS	2003	2002
Euro	\$1,922	\$1,536
Canadian Dollars	1,086	808
Australian Dollars	781	620
British Pounds Sterling	741	700
Brazilian Reais	365	385

The Company prepared sensitivity analyses of its financial instruments to determine the impact of hypothetical changes in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates on the Company's results of operations, cash flows and the fair value of its financial instruments. The interest rate analysis assumed a one percentage point adverse change in interest rates on all financial instruments but did not consider the effects of the reduced level of economic activity that could exist in such an environment. The foreign currency rate analysis assumed that each foreign currency rate would change by 10% in the same direction relative to the U.S. Dollar on all financial instruments; however, the analysis did not include the potential impact on sales levels or local currency prices or the effect of fluctuating currencies on the Company's anticipated foreign currency royalties and other payments received in the U.S. Based on the results of these analyses of the Company's financial instruments, neither a one percentage point adverse change in interest rates from 2003 levels nor a 10% adverse change in foreign currency rates from 2003 levels would materially affect the Company's results of operations, cash flows or the fair value of its financial instruments.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS AND COMMITMENTS

The Company has long-term contractual obligations primarily in the form of lease obligations (related to both Company-operated and franchised restaurants) and debt obligations. In addition, the Company has long-term revenue and cash flow streams that relate to its franchise arrangements. Cash provided by operations (including cash provided by these franchise arrangements) along with the Company's borrowing capacity and other sources of cash will be used to satisfy the obligations. The following table summarizes the Company's contractual obligations and their aggregate maturities as well as future minimum rent payments due to the Company under existing franchise arrangements as of December 31, 2003. (See discussions of cash flows, financial position and capital resources as well as the Notes to the December 31, 2003 consolidated financial statements for further details.)

IN MILLIONS	<i>Contractual cash outflows</i>		<i>Contractual cash inflows</i>
	Operating leases	Debt obligations ⁽¹⁾	Minimum rent under franchise arrangements
2004	\$ 998	\$ 388	\$ 1,804
2005	939	1,371	1,761
2006	877	1,941	1,715
2007	815	667	1,663
2008	758	851	1,611
Thereafter	6,531	4,191	12,987
Total	\$10,918	\$9,409	\$21,541

(1) The maturities reflect reclassifications of short-term obligations to long-term obligations of \$750 million in 2006 and \$500 million thereafter, as they are supported by long-term line of credit agreements. Debt obligations do not include \$321 million of SFAS No. 133 noncash fair value adjustments.

The Company maintains a nonqualified, unfunded Supplemental Plan that allows participants to make tax-deferred contributions and receive Company-provided allocations that cannot be made under the Profit Sharing and Savings Plan because of Internal Revenue Service limitations. The investment alternatives and returns in the Supplemental Plan are based on certain market-rate investment alternatives under the Profit Sharing and Savings Plan. Total liabilities under the Supplemental Plan were \$329 million at December 31, 2003 and \$297 million at December 31, 2002, and were included in other long-term liabilities in the Consolidated balance sheet.

In addition to long-term obligations, the Company had guaranteed certain affiliate and other loans totaling \$89 million at December 31, 2003.

OTHER MATTERS

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based upon the Company's consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses as well as related disclosures. On an ongoing basis, the Company evaluates its estimates and judgments based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

The Company reviews its financial reporting and disclosure practices and accounting policies quarterly to ensure that they provide accurate and transparent information relative to the current economic and business environment. The Company believes that of its significant accounting policies the following involve a higher degree of judgment and/or complexity.

Property and equipment

Property and equipment are depreciated or amortized on a straight-line basis over their useful lives based on management's estimates of the period over which the assets will generate revenue. The useful lives are estimated based on historical experience with similar assets, taking into account anticipated technological or other changes. The Company periodically reviews these lives relative to physical factors, economic factors and industry trends. If there are changes in the planned use of property and equipment or if technological changes occur more rapidly than anticipated, the useful lives assigned to these assets may need to be shortened, resulting in the recognition of increased depreciation and amortization expense in future periods.

Long-lived assets

Long-lived assets (including goodwill) are reviewed for impairment annually in the fourth quarter and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. In assessing the recoverability of the Company's long-lived assets, the Company considers changes in economic conditions and makes assumptions regarding estimated future cash flows and other factors. (The biggest assumption impacting estimated future cash flows is the estimated change in comparable sales.) Estimates of future cash flows are highly subjective judgments based on the Company's experience and knowledge of operations. These estimates can be significantly impacted by many factors including changes in global and local business and economic conditions, operating costs, inflation, competition, and consumer and demographic trends. If the Company's estimates or underlying assumptions change in the future, the Company may be required to record impairment charges.

Restructuring and litigation accruals

The Company has recorded charges related to restructuring markets, closing restaurants, eliminating positions and other strategic changes. The accruals recorded included estimates pertaining to employee termination costs, number of restaurants to be closed and remaining lease obligations for closed facilities. Although the Company does not anticipate significant changes, the actual costs may differ from these estimates.

From time to time, the Company is subject to proceedings, lawsuits and other claims related to franchisees, suppliers, employees, customers, competitors and intellectual property. The Company is required to assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes to these matters as well as potential ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of accrual required, if any, for these contingencies is made after careful analysis of each matter. The required accrual may change in the future due to new developments in each matter or changes in approach such as a change in settlement strategy in dealing with these matters. The Company does not believe that any such matter will have a material adverse effect on its financial condition or results of operations.

Income taxes

The Company records a valuation allowance to reduce its deferred tax assets if it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred assets will not be realized. While the Company has considered future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax strategies in assessing the need for the valuation allowance, if these estimates and assumptions change in the future, the Company may be required to adjust its valuation allowance. This could result in a charge to, or an increase in, income in the period such determination is made.

Deferred U.S. income taxes have not been recorded for basis differences totaling \$4.2 billion related to investments in certain foreign subsidiaries or affiliates. The basis differences consist primarily of undistributed earnings considered permanently invested in the businesses. If management's intentions change in the future, deferred taxes may need to be provided.

In addition, the Company operates within multiple taxing jurisdictions and is subject to audit in these jurisdictions. The Company records accruals for the estimated outcomes of these audits, and the accruals may change in the future due to new developments in each matter.

EFFECTS OF CHANGING PRICES—INFLATION

The Company has demonstrated an ability to manage inflationary cost increases effectively. This is because of rapid inventory turnover, the ability to adjust menu prices, cost controls and substantial property holdings—many of which are at fixed costs and partly financed by debt made less expensive by inflation.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain forward-looking statements are included in this report. They use such words as "may," "will," "expect," "believe," "plan" and other similar terminology. These statements reflect management's current expectations regarding future events and operating performance and speak only as of March 5, 2004. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties. The following are some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in or underlying our forward-looking statements: effectiveness of operating initiatives; success in advertising and promotional efforts; changes in global and local business and economic conditions, including their impact on consumer confidence; fluctuations in currency exchange and interest rates; food, labor and other operating costs; political or economic instability in local markets, including the effects of war and terrorist activities; competition, including pricing and marketing initiatives and new product offerings by the Company's competitors; consumer preferences or perceptions concerning the Company's product offerings; spending patterns and demographic trends; availability of qualified restaurant personnel; severe weather conditions; existence of positive or negative publicity regarding the Company or its industry generally; effects of legal claims; cost and deployment of capital; changes in future effective tax rates; changes in governmental regulations; and changes in applicable accounting policies and practices. The foregoing list of important factors is not all-inclusive.

The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA	Years ended December 31, 2003	2002	2001
REVENUES			
Sales by Company-operated restaurants	\$12,795.4	\$11,499.6	\$11,040.7
Revenues from franchised and affiliated restaurants	4,345.1	3,906.1	3,829.3
Total revenues	17,140.5	15,405.7	14,870.0
OPERATING COSTS AND EXPENSES			
Company-operated restaurant expenses			
Food & paper	4,314.8	3,917.4	3,802.1
Payroll & employee benefits	3,411.4	3,078.2	2,901.2
Occupancy & other operating expenses	3,279.8	2,911.0	2,750.4
Franchised restaurants—occupancy expenses	937.7	840.1	800.2
Selling, general & administrative expenses	1,833.0	1,712.8	1,661.7
Other operating expense, net	531.6	833.3	257.4
Total operating costs and expenses	14,308.3	13,292.8	12,173.0
Operating income	2,832.2	2,112.9	2,697.0
Interest expense—net of capitalized interest of \$7.8, \$14.3 and \$15.2	388.0	374.1	452.4
McDonald's Japan IPO gain			(137.1)
Nonoperating expense, net	97.8	76.7	52.0
Income before provision for income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting changes	2,346.4	1,662.1	2,329.7
Provision for income taxes	838.2	670.0	693.1
Income before cumulative effect of accounting changes	1,508.2	992.1	1,636.6
Cumulative effect of accounting changes, net of tax benefits of \$9.4 and \$17.6	(36.8)	(98.6)	
Net income	\$ 1,471.4	\$ 893.5	\$ 1,636.6
Per common share—basic:			
Income before cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$ 1.19	\$.78	\$ 1.27
Cumulative effect of accounting changes	(.03)	(.08)	
Net income	\$ 1.16	\$.70	\$ 1.27
Per common share—diluted:			
Income before cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$ 1.18	\$.77	\$ 1.25
Cumulative effect of accounting changes	(.03)	(.07)	
Net income	\$ 1.15	\$.70	\$ 1.25
Dividends per common share	\$.40	\$.24	\$.23
Weighted-average shares outstanding—basic	1,269.8	1,273.1	1,289.7
Weighted-average shares outstanding—diluted	1,276.5	1,281.5	1,309.3

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA

December 31, 2003

2002

ASSETS

Current assets

Cash and equivalents	\$ 492.8	\$ 330.4
Accounts and notes receivable	734.5	855.3
Inventories, at cost, not in excess of market	129.4	111.7
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	528.7	418.0
Total current assets	1,885.4	1,715.4

Other assets

Investments in and advances to affiliates	1,089.6	1,037.7
Goodwill, net	1,665.1	1,558.5
Miscellaneous	960.3	1,075.5
Total other assets	3,715.0	3,671.7

Property and equipment

Property and equipment, at cost	28,740.2	26,218.6
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(8,815.5)	(7,635.2)
Net property and equipment	19,924.7	18,583.4

Total assets

Total assets	\$25,525.1	\$23,970.5
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LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Current liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 577.4	\$ 635.8
Income taxes	71.5	16.3
Other taxes	222.0	191.8
Accrued interest	193.1	199.4
Accrued restructuring and restaurant closing costs	115.7	328.5
Accrued payroll and other liabilities	918.1	774.7
Current maturities of long-term debt	388.0	275.8
Total current liabilities	2,485.8	2,422.3

Long-term debt

Other long-term liabilities and minority interests	9,342.5	9,703.6
Deferred income taxes	699.8	560.0

Shareholders' equity

Preferred stock, no par value; authorized—165.0 million shares; issued—none		
Common stock, \$.01 par value; authorized—3.5 billion shares;		
issued—1,660.6 million shares	16.6	16.6
Additional paid-in capital	1,837.5	1,747.3
Unearned ESOP compensation	(90.5)	(98.4)
Retained earnings	20,172.3	19,204.4
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(635.5)	(1,601.3)
Common stock in treasury, at cost; 398.7 and 392.4 million shares	(9,318.5)	(8,987.7)
Total shareholders' equity	11,981.9	10,280.9
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$25,525.1	\$23,970.5

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

IN MILLIONS	Years ended December 31, 2003	2002	2001
Operating activities			
Net income	\$ 1,471.4	\$ 893.5	\$ 1,636.6
Adjustments to reconcile to cash provided by operations			
Cumulative effect of accounting changes	36.8	98.6	
Depreciation and amortization	1,148.2	1,050.8	1,086.3
Deferred income taxes	181.4	(44.6)	(87.6)
Changes in working capital items			
Accounts receivable	64.0	1.6	(104.7)
Inventories, prepaid expenses and other current assets	(30.2)	(38.1)	(62.9)
Accounts payable	(77.6)	(11.2)	10.2
Taxes and other accrued liabilities	(147.2)	448.0	270.4
Other (including noncash portion of special items)	622.0	491.5	(60.0)
Cash provided by operations	3,268.8	2,890.1	2,688.3
Investing activities			
Property and equipment expenditures	(1,307.4)	(2,003.8)	(1,906.2)
Purchases of restaurant businesses	(375.8)	(548.4)	(331.6)
Sales of restaurant businesses and property	390.6	369.5	375.9
Other	(77.0)	(283.9)	(206.3)
Cash used for investing activities	(1,369.6)	(2,466.6)	(2,068.2)
Financing activities			
Net short-term repayments	(533.5)	(606.8)	(248.0)
Long-term financing issuances	398.1	1,502.6	1,694.7
Long-term financing repayments	(756.2)	(750.3)	(919.4)
Treasury stock purchases	(391.0)	(670.2)	(1,068.1)
Common stock dividends	(503.5)	(297.4)	(287.7)
Other	49.3	310.9	204.8
Cash used for financing activities	(1,736.8)	(511.2)	(623.7)
Cash and equivalents increase (decrease)	162.4	(87.7)	(3.6)
Cash and equivalents at beginning of year	330.4	418.1	421.7
Cash and equivalents at end of year	\$ 492.8	\$ 330.4	\$ 418.1
Supplemental cash flow disclosures			
Interest paid	\$ 426.9	\$ 359.7	\$ 446.9
Income taxes paid	608.5	572.2	773.8

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA	Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)						Common stock in treasury			Total shareholders' equity
	Common stock issued	Additional paid-in capital	Unearned ESOP compen- sation	Retained earnings	Deferred hedging adjustment	Foreign currency translation	Shares	Amount		
Balance at December 31, 2000	1,660.6	\$16.6	\$1,441.8	\$(115.0)	\$17,259.4	\$ –	\$(1,287.3)	(355.7)	\$(8,111.1)	\$ 9,204.4
Net income					1,636.6					1,636.6
Translation adjustments (including taxes of \$65.7)							(412.2)			(412.2)
SFAS No.133 transition adjustment (including tax benefits of \$9.2)						(17.0)				(17.0)
Fair value adjustments—cash flow hedges (including taxes of \$1.4)						7.7				7.7
Comprehensive income										1,215.1
Common stock cash dividends (\$.23 per share)					(287.7)					(287.7)
ESOP loan payment				8.0						8.0
Treasury stock purchases							(36.1)	(1,090.2)	(1,090.2)	
Common equity put option issuances and expirations, net and forward contracts									199.2	199.2
Stock option exercises and other (including tax benefits of \$70.0)		149.4	0.3				11.9	89.9		239.6
Balance at December 31, 2001	1,660.6	16.6	1,591.2	(106.7)	18,608.3	(9.3)	(1,699.5)	(379.9)	(8,912.2)	9,488.4
Net income					893.5					893.5
Translation adjustments (including tax benefits of \$150.5)							106.7			106.7
Fair value adjustments—cash flow hedges (including tax benefits of \$3.5)						0.8				0.8
Comprehensive income										1,001.0
Common stock cash dividends (\$.24 per share)					(297.4)					(297.4)
ESOP loan payment				7.4						7.4
Treasury stock purchases							(25.6)	(686.9)	(686.9)	
Common equity put option expirations and forward contracts settled									500.8	500.8
Stock option exercises and other (including tax benefits of \$61.3)		156.1	0.9				13.1	110.6		267.6
Balance at December 31, 2002	1,660.6	16.6	1,747.3	(98.4)	19,204.4	(8.5)	(1,592.8)	(392.4)	(8,987.7)	10,280.9
Net income					1,471.4					1,471.4
Translation adjustments (including tax benefits of \$203.2)							957.8			957.8
Fair value adjustments—cash flow hedges (including taxes of \$1.6)						8.0				8.0
Comprehensive income										2,437.2
Common stock cash dividends (\$.40 per share)					(503.5)					(503.5)
ESOP loan payment				7.2						7.2
Treasury stock purchases							(18.9)	(438.7)	(438.7)	
Stock option exercises and other (including tax benefits of \$20.5)		90.2	0.7				12.6	107.9		198.8
Balance at December 31, 2003	1,660.6	\$16.6	\$1,837.5	\$ (90.5)	\$20,172.3	\$ (0.5)	\$ (635.0)	(398.7)	\$(9,318.5)	\$11,981.9

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

NATURE OF BUSINESS

The Company primarily operates and franchises McDonald's restaurants in the food service industry. The Company also operates Boston Market and Chipotle Mexican Grill in the U.S. and has a minority ownership in U.K.-based Pret A Manger. In December 2003, the Company sold its Donatos Pizzeria business.

All restaurants are operated either by the Company, by independent entrepreneurs under the terms of franchise arrangements (franchisees), or by affiliates operating under license agreements.

CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries. Substantially all investments in affiliates owned 50% or less (primarily McDonald's Japan) are accounted for by the equity method.

ESTIMATES IN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

The Company's revenues consist of sales by Company-operated restaurants and fees from restaurants operated by franchisees and affiliates. Sales by Company-operated restaurants are recognized on a cash basis. Fees from franchised and affiliated restaurants include continuing rent and service fees, initial fees and royalties received from foreign affiliates and developmental licensees. Continuing fees and royalties are recognized in the period earned. Initial fees are recognized upon opening of a restaurant, which is when the Company has performed substantially all initial services required by the franchise arrangement.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

The functional currency of substantially all operations outside the U.S. is the respective local currency, except for a small number of countries with hyperinflationary economies, where the functional currency is the U.S. Dollar.

ADVERTISING COSTS

Advertising costs included in costs of Company-operated restaurants primarily consist of contributions to advertising cooperatives and were (in millions): 2003-\$596.7; 2002-\$532.3; 2001-\$521.5. Production costs for radio and television advertising, primarily in the U.S., are expensed when the commercials are initially aired. These production costs as well as other marketing-related expenses included

in selling, general & administrative expenses were (in millions): 2003-\$113.1; 2002-\$115.3; 2001-\$79.4. In addition, significant advertising costs are incurred by franchisees through advertising cooperatives in individual markets.

STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The Company accounts for all stock-based compensation as prescribed by Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25. The Company discloses pro forma net income and net income per common share, as provided by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123, as amended by SFAS No. 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*.

The pro forma information was determined as if the Company had accounted for its employee stock options under the fair value method of SFAS No. 123. The fair value of these options was estimated at the date of grant using an option pricing model. The model was designed to estimate the fair value of exchange-traded options that, unlike employee stock options, can be traded at any time and are fully transferable. In addition, such models require the input of highly subjective assumptions including the expected volatility of the stock price. For pro forma disclosures, the options' estimated fair value was amortized over their vesting period. The following tables present the pro forma disclosures and the weighted-average assumptions used to estimate the fair value of these options.

Pro forma disclosures

IN MILLIONS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA	2003	2002	2001
As reported—net income	\$1,471.4	\$ 893.5	\$1,636.6
Add: Total stock-based employee compensation included in reported net income, net of related tax effects	4.4	—	—
Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value method for all awards, net of related tax effects	(224.1)	(251.7)	(210.0)
Pro forma—net income	\$1,251.7	\$ 641.8	\$1,426.6
Net income per share:			
As reported—basic	\$ 1.16	\$.70	\$ 1.27
Pro forma—basic	\$.99	\$.50	\$ 1.11
As reported—diluted	\$ 1.15	\$.70	\$ 1.25
Pro forma—diluted	\$.98	\$.50	\$ 1.10

Weighted-average assumptions

	2003	2002	2001
Expected dividend yield	.75%	.75%	.65%
Expected stock price volatility	28.1%	27.5%	25.7%
Risk-free interest rate	3.46%	5.25%	5.03%
Expected life of options IN YEARS	7	7	7
Fair value per option granted	\$ 5.09	\$ 10.88	\$ 9.93

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment are stated at cost, with depreciation and amortization provided using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives: buildings—up to 40 years; leasehold improvements—the lesser of useful lives of assets or lease terms including option periods; and equipment—three to 12 years.

GOODWILL

Goodwill represents the excess of cost over the net tangible assets of acquired restaurant businesses. The Company's goodwill primarily consists of amounts paid in excess of net tangible assets for purchases of McDonald's restaurants from franchisees and ownership increases in international subsidiaries or affiliates.

In 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS No. 141, *Business Combinations*, and No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*. SFAS No. 141 requires that the purchase method of accounting be used for all business combinations initiated after June 30, 2001 and includes guidance on the initial recognition and measurement of goodwill and other intangible assets arising from business combinations. SFAS No. 142, effective January 1, 2002, eliminates the amortization of goodwill (and intangible assets deemed to have indefinite lives) and instead subjects it to annual impairment tests. Other intangible assets continue to be amortized over their useful lives. Application of the nonamortization provisions of SFAS No. 142 in 2001

would have increased net income by approximately \$30 million (\$0.02 per share).

Under SFAS No. 142, goodwill is generally assigned to the reporting units expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination. If a Company-operated restaurant is sold within 24 months of acquisition, the goodwill associated with the acquisition is written off in its entirety. If a restaurant is sold beyond 24 months from the acquisition, the amount of goodwill written off is based on the relative fair value of the business sold compared to the portion of the reporting unit (defined as each individual country for McDonald's restaurant business as well as each individual non-McDonald's brand) that will be retained.

The annual goodwill impairment test compares the fair value of a reporting unit, generally based on discounted future cash flows, with its carrying amount including goodwill. If the carrying amount of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, an impairment loss is measured as the difference between the fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill and the carrying amount of goodwill.

The Company performed the initial required goodwill impairment test as of January 1, 2002 and recorded a noncash charge of \$98.6 million after tax (\$0.07 per diluted share) for the cumulative effect of this accounting change. The impaired goodwill resulted primarily from businesses in Argentina, Uruguay and other markets in Latin America and the Middle East, where economies had weakened significantly in recent years.

The following table presents the 2003 activity in goodwill by segment.

IN MILLIONS	U.S.	Europe	APMEA ⁽¹⁾	Latin America	Canada	Other ⁽²⁾	Consolidated
Balance at December 31, 2002	\$676.3	\$406.3	\$178.1	\$ 97.3	\$56.3	\$144.2	\$1,558.5
Net restaurant purchases (sales)	56.7	19.6	16.7	24.6	21.4	(0.4)	138.6
Ownership increases in subsidiaries/affiliates		9.7	11.1			2.9	23.7
Impairment charges			(23.3)	(74.9)			(98.2)
Sale of business						(95.8)	(95.8)
Currency translation	75.1	29.0	15.3	18.9			138.3
Balance at December 31, 2003	\$733.0	\$510.7	\$211.6	\$ 62.3	\$96.6	\$ 50.9	\$1,665.1

(1) APMEA represents Asia/Pacific, the Middle East and Africa.

(2) Other represents non-McDonald's brands.

LONG-LIVED ASSETS

In accordance with SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*, long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment annually in the fourth quarter and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. For purposes of annually reviewing McDonald's restaurant assets for potential impairment, assets are initially grouped together at a television market level in the U.S. and at a country level for each of the international markets. If an indicator of impairment (e.g., negative operating cash flows for the most recent trailing twelve-month period) exists for any grouping of assets, an estimate of undiscounted future

cash flows produced by each individual restaurant within the asset grouping is compared to its carrying value. If an asset is determined to be impaired, the loss is measured by the excess of the carrying amount of the asset over its fair value as determined by an estimate of discounted future cash flows.

Losses on assets held for disposal are recognized when management has approved and committed to a plan to dispose of the assets, and the assets are available for disposal. Generally, such losses relate to either restaurants that have closed and ceased operations or businesses or restaurants that are available for sale.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company generally borrows on a long-term basis and is exposed to the impact of interest rate changes and foreign currency fluctuations. The Company uses foreign currency denominated debt and derivative instruments to manage the impact of these changes. The Company does not use derivatives with a level of complexity or with a risk higher than the exposures to be hedged and does not hold or issue derivatives for trading purposes.

The counterparties to these agreements consist of a diverse group of financial institutions. The Company continually monitors its positions and the credit ratings of its counterparties and adjusts positions as appropriate. The Company did not have significant exposure to any individual counterparty at December 31, 2003 and has master agreements that contain netting arrangements. Certain of these agreements also require each party to post collateral if credit ratings fall below or aggregate exposures exceed certain contractual limits. At December 31, 2003, the Company was required to post collateral of \$11.6 million, and at December 31, 2002, collateral of \$2.2 million was posted by a counterparty.

Effective January 1, 2001, the Company adopted SFAS No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*, as amended. SFAS No. 133 requires companies to recognize all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the balance sheet at fair value. SFAS No. 133 also requires companies to designate all derivatives that qualify as hedging instruments as either fair value hedges, cash flow hedges or hedges of net investments in foreign operations. This designation is based upon the exposure being hedged.

The Company recorded a transition adjustment at January 1, 2001 related to cash flow hedges, which reduced accumulated other comprehensive income in shareholders' equity by \$17.0 million, after tax. This adjustment was primarily related to interest rate exchange agreements used to lock in long-term borrowing rates. The cumulative effect of adopting SFAS No. 133 at January 1, 2001 was not material to the Company's Consolidated statement of income.

All derivatives, primarily interest rate exchange agreements and foreign currency exchange agreements, were classified in the Company's Consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2003 and 2002 respectively, as follows: miscellaneous other assets—\$102.4 million and \$133.9 million; other long-term liabilities (excluding accrued interest)—\$135.5 million and \$39.2 million; and accrued payroll and other liabilities—\$29.2 million and \$23.8 million.

There was no significant impact to the Company's earnings related to the ineffective portion of any hedging instruments for the three years ended December 31, 2003.

Fair value hedges

The Company enters into fair value hedges to reduce the exposure to changes in the fair values of certain assets or liabilities. The types of fair value hedges the Company enters into include: (1) interest rate exchange agreements to convert a portion of its fixed-rate debt to floating-rate debt and (2) foreign currency exchange agreements for the exchange of various currencies and interest rates.

The foreign currency exchange agreements are entered into to hedge the currency risk associated with debt and inter-company loans denominated in foreign currencies, and essentially result in floating-rate assets or liabilities denominated in U.S. Dollars or appropriate functional currencies.

For fair value hedges, the gains or losses on derivatives as well as the offsetting gains or losses on the related hedged items are recognized in current earnings.

Cash flow hedges

The Company enters into cash flow hedges to reduce the exposure to variability in certain expected future cash flows. The types of cash flow hedges the Company enters into include: (1) interest rate exchange agreements that effectively convert a portion of floating-rate debt to fixed-rate debt and are designed to reduce the impact of interest rate changes on future interest expense, (2) forward foreign exchange contracts and foreign currency options that are designed to protect against the reduction in value of forecasted foreign currency cash flows such as royalties and other payments denominated in foreign currencies, and (3) foreign currency exchange agreements for the exchange of various currencies and interest rates. The foreign currency exchange agreements hedge the currency risk associated with debt and intercompany loans denominated in foreign currencies, and essentially result in fixed-rate assets or liabilities denominated in U.S. Dollars or appropriate functional currencies.

For cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the gains or losses on derivatives is reported in the deferred hedging adjustment component of accumulated other comprehensive income in shareholders' equity and reclassified into earnings in the same period or periods in which the hedged transaction affects earnings. The remaining gain or loss in excess of the cumulative change in the present value of future cash flows of the hedged item, if any, is recognized in earnings during the period of change.

The Company recorded net increases to the deferred hedging adjustment component of accumulated other comprehensive income in shareholders' equity of \$8.0 million, \$0.8 million and \$7.7 million, after tax, related to cash flow hedges during the years ended December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. Based on interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates at December 31, 2003, no significant amount of deferred hedging adjustments, after tax, included in accumulated other comprehensive income in shareholders' equity at December 31, 2003 will be recognized in earnings in 2004 as the underlying hedged transactions are realized. The maximum maturity date of any cash flow hedge of forecasted transactions at December 31, 2003 was 24 months, excluding instruments hedging forecasted payments of variable interest on existing financial instruments that have various maturity dates through 2015.

Hedges of net investments in foreign operations

The Company uses forward foreign exchange contracts and foreign currency denominated debt to hedge its investments in certain foreign subsidiaries and affiliates. Realized and unrealized translation adjustments from these hedges are included in shareholders' equity in the foreign currency translation component of accumulated other comprehensive income and offset translation adjustments on the underlying net assets of foreign subsidiaries and affiliates, which also are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income.

During the year ended December 31, 2003, the Company recorded a decrease in translation adjustments in accumulated other comprehensive income of \$378.1 million after tax (included in the net increase of \$957.8 million of translation adjustments in the Consolidated statement of shareholders' equity), related primarily to foreign currency denominated debt designated as hedges of net investments. During the year ended December 31, 2002, the Company recorded a decrease in translation adjustments in accumulated other comprehensive income of \$312.0 million after tax related to hedges of net investments, while during the year ended December 31, 2001, the Company recorded an increase in translation adjustments of \$168.5 million after tax related to hedges of net investments.

ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS

In 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 143, *Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations*, effective January 1, 2003. The Statement requires legal obligations associated with the retirement of long-lived assets to be recognized at their fair value at the time that the obligations are incurred. Upon initial recognition of a liability, the cost is capitalized as part of the related long-lived asset and allocated to expense over the useful life of the asset. In first quarter 2003, the Company recorded a noncash charge of \$36.8 million after tax (\$0.03 per diluted share) related to lease obligations in certain international markets to reflect the cumulative effect of this accounting change. There is not a material effect to the Company's ongoing results of operations or financial position.

COMMON EQUITY PUT OPTIONS AND FORWARD CONTRACTS

During 2001, the Company sold 12.2 million common equity put options in connection with its share repurchase program. Premiums received of \$31.8 million were recorded in shareholders' equity as a reduction of the cost of treasury stock purchased. In 2002, 10.1 million common equity put options were exercised and 2.1 million options expired unexercised, while 21.0 million options were exercised in 2001. The total amount paid to acquire these shares as a result of the options being exercised was \$286 million in 2002 and \$700 million in 2001. No common equity put options were sold in either 2003 or 2002; therefore, at December 31, 2003 and 2002, there were no common equity put options outstanding.

During 2001, the Company also entered into equity forward contracts in connection with its share repurchase program. The forward contracts for 5.5 million shares settled in March 2002. No additional equity forward contracts were entered into subsequent to March 2002.

SALES OF STOCK BY SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES

As permitted by Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 51 issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission, when a subsidiary or affiliate sells unissued shares in a public offering, the Company records an adjustment to reflect an increase or decrease in the carrying value of its investment and a resulting nonoperating gain or loss.

PER COMMON SHARE INFORMATION

Diluted net income per common share is calculated using net income divided by diluted weighted-average shares. Diluted weighted-average shares include weighted-average shares outstanding plus the dilutive effect of stock options, calculated using the treasury stock method. The dilutive effect of stock options was (in millions of shares): 2003—6.7; 2002—8.4; 2001—19.6. Stock options that were not included in diluted weighted-average shares because they would have been antidilutive were (in millions of shares): 2003—159.1; 2002—148.0; 2001—83.1. The dilutive effect of common equity put options and forward contracts in 2001 was not significant.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The Company considers short-term, highly liquid investments to be cash equivalents. The impact of fluctuating foreign currencies on cash and equivalents was not material.

OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE, NET

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
Gains on sales of restaurant businesses	\$ (54.5)	\$(113.6)	\$(112.4)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates	(36.9)	(24.1)	(62.7)
Other expense	215.4	117.8	54.9
Special charges:			
Restructuring	272.1	266.9	200.0
Restaurant closings/asset impairment	135.5	402.4	135.2
Other		183.9	42.4
Total special charges	407.6	853.2	377.6
Other operating expense, net	\$ 531.6	\$ 833.3	\$ 257.4

OTHER EXPENSE

Other expense primarily consists of gains or losses on excess property dispositions and provisions for uncollectible receivables.

RESTRUCTURING

In 2003, the \$272.1 million of charges consisted of: \$237.0 million related to the loss on the sale of Donatos Pizzeria, the closing of Donatos and Boston Market restaurants outside the U.S. and the exit of a domestic joint venture with Fazoli's; and \$35.1 million related to the revitalization plan actions of McDonald's Japan, including headcount reductions, the closing of Pret A Manger stores in Japan, and the early termination of a long-term management services agreement.

In 2002, the \$266.9 million of net charges consisted of: \$201.4 million related to the anticipated transfer of ownership in five countries in the Middle East and Latin America to developmental licensees and ceasing operations in two countries in Latin America; \$80.5 million primarily related to eliminating approximately 600 positions (about half of which were in the U.S. and half of which were in international markets), reallocating resources and consolidating certain home office facilities to control costs; and a \$15.0 million favorable adjustment to the 2001 restructuring charge due to lower employee-related costs than originally anticipated.

In 2001, the \$200.0 million of restructuring charges related to initiatives designed to improve the restaurant experience, primarily in the U.S. These initiatives included streamlining operations by reducing the number of regions and divisions, enabling the Company to combine staff functions and improve efficiency. In connection with these initiatives, the Company eliminated approximately 850 positions (700 in the U.S., primarily in the divisions and regions, and 150 in international markets).

RESTAURANT CLOSINGS/ASSET IMPAIRMENT

In 2003, the \$135.5 million of net charges consisted of: \$147.7 million primarily related to asset/goodwill impairment, mainly in Latin America; \$29.6 million for about 50 restaurant closings associated with strategic actions in Latin America; and a \$41.8 million favorable adjustment to the 2002 charge for restaurant closings, primarily due to about 85 fewer closings than originally anticipated.

In 2002, the \$402.4 million of charges consisted of: \$302.3 million related to management's decision to close 751 underperforming restaurants primarily in the U.S. and Japan; and \$100.1 million primarily related to the impairment of assets for certain existing restaurants in Europe and Latin America.

In 2001, the \$135.2 million of charges consisted of: \$91.2 million related to the closing of 163 underperforming restaurants in international markets; a \$24.0 million asset impairment charge in Turkey; and \$20.0 million related to the disposition of Aroma Café in the U.K.

OTHER

In 2002, the \$183.9 million of charges consisted of: \$170.0 million primarily related to the write-off of software development costs as a result of management's decision to terminate a long-term technology project; and \$13.9 million related to the write-off of receivables and inventory in Venezuela as a result of the temporary closure of all McDonald's restaurants due to a national strike.

In 2001, the \$42.4 million of charges consisted of: \$17.4 million primarily related to the write-off of certain technology costs; and \$25.0 million primarily related to the unrecoverable costs incurred in connection with the theft of winning game pieces from the Company's Monopoly and certain other promotional games over an extended period of time, and the related termination of the supplier of the game pieces. Fifty individuals (none of whom were Company employees) were convicted of conspiracy and/or mail fraud charges.

The following table presents the activity included in accrued restructuring and restaurant closing costs in the Consolidated balance sheet.

IN MILLIONS	2001 activity			Liability at Dec 31, 2001			2002 activity			Liability at Dec 31, 2002			2003 activity			Liability at Dec 31, 2003		
	Provision	Cash	Noncash				Provision	Cash	Noncash				Provision	Cash	Noncash			
Restructuring:																		
Asset write-offs	\$ 10.0		\$ (10.0)		–		\$141.7		\$ (141.7)		–		\$249.5		\$ (249.5)		–	
Employee-related costs	114.4	\$ (34.6)		\$ 79.8		40.9	\$ (48.4)			\$ 72.3			\$ (34.0)		\$ 38.3			
Lease termination and other	75.6	(29.4)		46.2		84.3	(27.2)			103.3			22.6	(47.1)	(35.1)	43.7		
	200.0	(64.0)	(10.0)	126.0		266.9	(75.6)	(141.7)		175.6			272.1	(81.1)	(284.6)	82.0		
Restaurant closings/asset impairment:																		
Asset write-offs	119.0		(119.0)		–		282.3		(282.3)		–		144.4		(144.4)		–	
Lease termination and other	16.2	(5.1)		11.1		120.1	(2.8)			128.4			(8.9)	(85.8)		33.7		
	135.2	(5.1)	(119.0)	11.1		402.4	(2.8)	(282.3)		128.4			135.5	(85.8)	(144.4)	33.7		
Other:																		
Asset write-offs	17.4		(17.4)		–		164.4		(164.4)		–						–	
Other	25.0	(17.9)		7.1		19.5	(2.1)			24.5			(24.5)				–	
	42.4	(17.9)	(17.4)	7.1		183.9	(2.1)	(164.4)		24.5			(24.5)				–	
Total accrued restructuring and restaurant closing costs	\$377.6	\$(87.0)	\$(146.4)	\$144.2		\$853.2	\$(80.5)	\$(588.4)		\$328.5			\$407.6	\$(191.4)	\$(429.0)	\$115.7		

Employee severance is generally paid in installments over a period of up to one year after termination, and the remaining lease payments for closed facilities will be paid over the next several years.

McDONALD'S JAPAN INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING (IPO) GAIN

In 2001, McDonald's Japan, the Company's 50%-owned affiliate, completed an IPO of 12 million shares. The Company recorded a \$137.1 million gain (pre and after tax) in nonoperating income to reflect an increase in the carrying value of its investment as a result of the cash proceeds from the IPO received by McDonald's Japan.

FRANCHISE ARRANGEMENTS

Individual franchise arrangements generally include a lease and a license and provide for payment of initial fees, as well as continuing rent and service fees to the Company based upon a percent of sales with minimum rent payments. McDonald's franchisees are granted the right to operate a restaurant using the McDonald's system and, in most cases, the use of a restaurant facility, generally for a period of 20 years. Franchisees pay related occupancy costs including property taxes, insurance and maintenance. In addition, franchisees outside the U.S. generally pay a refundable, noninterest-bearing security deposit. Foreign affiliates and developmental licensees pay a royalty to the Company based upon a percent of sales.

The results of operations of restaurant businesses purchased and sold in transactions with franchisees, affiliates and others were not material to the consolidated financial statements for periods prior to purchase and sale.

Revenues from franchised and affiliated restaurants consisted of:

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
Minimum rents	\$1,600.3	\$1,479.9	\$1,477.9
Percent rent and service fees	2,701.8	2,375.1	2,290.2
Initial fees	43.0	51.1	61.2
Revenues from franchised and affiliated restaurants	\$4,345.1	\$3,906.1	\$3,829.3

Future minimum rent payments due to the Company under existing franchise arrangements are:

IN MILLIONS	Owned sites	Leased sites	Total
2004	\$ 1,035.6	\$ 768.5	\$ 1,804.1
2005	1,014.5	746.5	1,761.0
2006	990.1	724.4	1,714.5
2007	958.5	705.0	1,663.5
2008	926.1	684.8	1,610.9
Thereafter	7,495.4	5,491.3	12,986.7
Total minimum payments	\$12,420.2	\$9,120.5	\$21,540.7

At December 31, 2003, net property and equipment under franchise arrangements totaled \$10.4 billion (including land of \$3.0 billion) after deducting accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$4.5 billion.

LEASING ARRANGEMENTS

At December 31, 2003, the Company was lessee at 6,781 restaurant locations through ground leases (the Company leases the land and the Company or franchisee owns the building) and at 8,070 restaurant locations through improved leases (the Company leases land and buildings). Lease terms for most restaurants are generally for 20 to 25 years and, in many cases, provide for rent escalations and renewal options, with certain leases providing purchase options. For most locations, the Company is obligated for the related occupancy costs including property taxes, insurance and maintenance. However, for franchised sites, the Company requires the franchisees to pay these costs. In addition, the Company is lessee under noncancelable leases covering certain offices and vehicles.

Future minimum payments required under existing operating leases with initial terms of one year or more are:

IN MILLIONS	Restaurant	Other	Total
2004	\$ 930.9	\$ 67.1	\$ 998.0
2005	884.5	55.0	939.5
2006	831.2	45.4	876.6
2007	777.0	37.7	814.7
2008	725.9	31.8	757.7
Thereafter	6,358.8	172.7	6,531.5
Total minimum payments	\$10,508.3	\$409.7	\$10,918.0

The following table provides detail of rent expense:

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
Company-operated restaurants:			
U.S.	\$ 136.9	\$ 124.0	\$115.5
Outside the U.S.	398.4	358.4	326.1
Total	\$ 535.3	\$ 482.4	\$441.6
Franchised restaurants:			
U.S.	\$ 279.6	\$ 254.4	\$239.7
Outside the U.S.	250.7	210.9	195.2
Total	\$ 530.3	\$ 465.3	\$434.9
Other	87.3	84.8	82.1
Total rent expense	\$1,152.9	\$1,032.5	\$958.6

Rent expense included percent rents in excess of minimum rents (in millions) as follows—Company-operated restaurants: 2003—\$73.2; 2002—\$64.1; 2001—\$57.6.

Franchised restaurants: 2003—\$80.3; 2002—\$67.2; 2001—\$62.0.

INCOME TAXES

Income before provision for income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting changes, classified by source of income, was as follows:

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
U.S.	\$1,150.8	\$ 876.3	\$ 958.2
Outside the U.S.	1,195.6	785.8	1,371.5
Income before provision for income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$2,346.4	\$1,662.1	\$2,329.7

The provision for income taxes, classified by the timing and location of payment, was as follows:

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
U.S. federal	\$177.9	\$307.0	\$357.3
U.S. state	58.8	54.6	59.7
Outside the U.S.	420.1	353.0	363.7
Current tax provision	656.8	714.6	780.7
U.S. federal	180.1	(47.4)	57.7
U.S. state	12.6	(7.6)	4.3
Outside the U.S.	(11.3)	10.4	(149.6)
Deferred tax provision (benefit) ⁽¹⁾	181.4	(44.6)	(87.6)
Provision for income taxes	\$838.2	\$670.0	\$693.1

(1) Includes the benefit of tax law changes in certain international markets of \$147.3 million in 2001. Amounts in 2003 and 2002 were not significant.

Net deferred tax liabilities consisted of:

IN MILLIONS	December 31, 2003	2002
Property and equipment	\$ 1,447.5	\$ 1,316.3
Other	424.2	448.4
Total deferred tax liabilities	1,871.7	1,764.7
Intangible assets	(236.2)	(199.7)
Operating loss carryforwards	(228.1)	(186.1)
Employee benefit plans	(123.2)	(129.7)
Property and equipment	(132.5)	(89.4)
Capital loss carryforwards	(197.0)	(88.0)
Unrealized foreign exchange losses	(280.6)	(109.4)
Foreign tax credit carryforwards	(86.9)	(45.0)
Other	(230.5)	(341.5)
Total deferred tax assets before valuation allowance	(1,515.0)	(1,188.8)
Valuation allowance	483.2	322.1
Net deferred tax liabilities ⁽¹⁾	\$ 839.9	\$ 898.0

(1) Net of current tax assets included in prepaid expenses and other current assets in the Consolidated balance sheet (in millions): 2003-\$175.2; 2002-\$105.7.

The statutory U.S. federal income tax rate reconciles to the effective income tax rates as follows:

	2003	2002	2001
Statutory U.S. federal income tax rate	35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
State income taxes, net of related federal income tax benefit	2.3	2.2	2.1
Benefits and taxes related to foreign operations ⁽¹⁾	(2.7)	(6.3)	(6.5)
Special items ⁽²⁾	2.5	8.7	(1.6)
Other, net	(1.4)	.7	.8
Effective income tax rates	35.7%	40.3%	29.8%

(1) Includes the benefit of tax law changes.

(2) Includes impact of special items, certain of which were not tax-effected.

Deferred U.S. income taxes have not been recorded for basis differences related to investments in certain foreign subsidiaries and affiliates. These basis differences were approximately \$4.2 billion at December 31, 2003 and consisted primarily of undistributed earnings considered permanently invested in the businesses. Determination of the deferred income tax liability on these unremitted earnings is not practicable because such liability, if any, is dependent on circumstances existing if and when remittance occurs.

SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

The Company operates in the food service industry. Revenues consist of sales by Company-operated restaurants and fees from restaurants operated by franchisees and affiliates. Fees from franchised and affiliated restaurants include continuing rent and service fees, initial fees, and royalties received from foreign affiliates and developmental licensees. All intercompany revenues and expenses are eliminated in computing revenues and operating income. Operating income includes the Company's share of operating results of affiliates after interest expense and income taxes, except for U.S. affiliates, which are reported before income taxes. Royalties and other payments received from subsidiaries outside the U.S. were (in millions): 2003-\$684.5; 2002-\$644.1; 2001-\$607.7.

Corporate general & administrative expenses are included in the corporate segment of operating income and consist of home office support costs in areas such as facilities, finance, human resources, information technology, legal, marketing, supply chain management and training. Corporate assets include corporate cash and equivalents, asset portions of financing instruments, home office facilities and deferred tax assets.

IN MILLIONS	2003	2002	2001
U.S.	\$ 6,039.3	\$ 5,422.7	\$ 5,395.6
Europe	5,874.9	5,136.0	4,751.8
APMEA	2,447.6	2,367.7	2,203.3
Latin America	858.8	813.9	971.3
Canada	777.9	633.6	608.1
Other	1,142.0	1,031.8	939.9
Total revenues	\$17,140.5	\$15,405.7	\$14,870.0
U.S.	\$ 1,982.1	\$ 1,673.3	\$ 1,622.5
Europe	1,339.1	1,021.8	1,063.2
APMEA	226.3	64.3	325.0
Latin America	(170.9)	(133.4)	10.9
Canada	163.2	125.4	123.7
Other	(295.1)	(66.8)	(66.5)
Corporate	(412.5)	(571.7)	(381.8)
Total operating income	\$ 2,832.2⁽¹⁾	\$ 2,112.9 ⁽²⁾	\$ 2,697.0 ⁽³⁾
U.S.	\$ 8,549.2	\$ 8,687.4	\$ 8,288.4
Europe	9,461.7	8,310.6	7,139.1
APMEA	3,591.8	3,332.0	3,144.5
Latin America	1,412.1	1,425.3	1,898.3
Canada	876.4	703.2	574.2
Other	574.8	780.4	637.1
Corporate	1,059.1	731.6	852.9
Total assets	\$25,525.1	\$23,970.5	\$22,534.5
U.S.	\$ 482.4	\$ 752.7	\$ 552.3
Europe	404.8	579.4	635.8
APMEA	122.1	230.4	275.7
Latin America	78.4	119.9	197.5
Canada	63.9	111.6	80.4
Other	132.8	190.4	153.3
Corporate	23.0	19.4	11.2
Total capital expenditures	\$ 1,307.4	\$ 2,003.8	\$ 1,906.2
U.S.	\$ 395.1	\$ 383.4	\$ 425.0
Europe	382.4	334.9	313.7
APMEA	156.5	141.7	133.2
Latin America	64.3	59.6	79.3
Canada	46.7	35.6	32.9
Other	53.1	40.3	36.8
Corporate	50.1	55.3	65.4
Total depreciation and amortization	\$ 1,148.2	\$ 1,050.8	\$ 1,086.3

(1) Includes \$407.6 million of special charges (adjustments) (U.S.-(11.4); Europe-(20.0); APMEA-\$54.9; Latin America-\$108.9; Canada-(1.2); Other-\$266.1; and Corporate-\$10.3) primarily related to the disposition of certain non-McDonald's brands and asset/goodwill impairment. See other operating expense, net note for further discussion.

(2) Includes \$853.2 million of special charges (U.S.-\$99.2; Europe-\$147.8; APMEA-\$222.3; Latin America-\$142.3; Canada-\$9.7; Other-\$34.0; and Corporate-\$197.9) primarily related to restructuring markets and eliminating positions, restaurant closings/asset impairment and the write-off of technology costs. See other operating expense, net note for further discussion.

(3) Includes \$377.6 million of special charges (U.S.-\$181.0; Europe-\$45.8; APMEA-\$41.5; Latin America-\$40.4; Canada-\$9.8; Other-\$24.9; and Corporate-\$34.2) primarily related to the U.S. business reorganization and other global change initiatives, and restaurant closings/asset impairment. See other operating expense, net note for further discussion.

Total long-lived assets, primarily property and equipment, were (in millions)—Consolidated: 2003—\$23,405.9; 2002—\$21,976.6; 2001—\$20,355.3. U.S. based: 2003—\$9,069.0; 2002—\$9,254.3; 2001—\$8,670.4.

DEBT FINANCING

LINE OF CREDIT AGREEMENTS

At December 31, 2003, the Company had several line of credit agreements with various banks totaling \$1.3 billion, all of which remained unused. Subsequent to year end, the Company renegotiated the line of credit agreements as follows: \$750.0 million of lines expiring in 2005 with a term of 364 days and fees based on current credit ratings of .06% per annum on the total commitment, with a feature that allows the Company to convert the borrowings to a one-year loan at expiration; and a \$500.0 million line expiring in 2009 with fees based on current credit ratings of .08% per annum on the total commitment. Fees and interest rates on these lines are based on the Company's long-term credit rating assigned by Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The new agreements no longer require the Company to maintain a minimum net worth. In addition, certain subsidiaries outside the U.S. had unused lines of credit totaling \$789.3 million at December 31, 2003; these were principally short term and denominated in various currencies at local market rates of interest.

The weighted-average interest rate of short-term borrowings was 4.3% at December 31, 2003 (based on \$341.1 million of foreign currency bank line borrowings) and 3.4% at December 31, 2002 (based on \$257.9 million of commercial paper and \$614.5 million of foreign currency bank line borrowings).

FAIR VALUES

At December 31, 2003, the fair value of the Company's debt obligations was estimated at \$10.2 billion, compared to a carrying amount of \$9.7 billion. This fair value was estimated using various pricing models or discounted cash flow analyses that incorporated quoted market prices. The Company has no current plans to retire a significant amount of its debt prior to maturity.

The carrying amounts for both cash and equivalents and notes receivable approximate fair value. Foreign currency and interest rate exchange agreements, foreign currency options and forward foreign exchange contracts were recorded in the Consolidated balance sheet at fair value estimated using various pricing models or discounted cash flow analyses that incorporated quoted market prices. No fair value was estimated for noninterest-bearing security deposits by franchisees, because these deposits are an integral part of the overall franchise arrangements.

DEBT OBLIGATIONS

The Company has incurred debt obligations principally through public and private offerings and bank loans. There are no provisions in the Company's debt obligations that would accelerate repayment of debt as a result of a change in credit ratings or a material adverse change in the Company's business. Certain of the Company's debt obligations contain cross-acceleration provisions, and restrictions on Company and subsidiary mortgages and the long-term debt of certain subsidiaries. Under certain agreements, the Company has the option to retire debt prior to maturity, either at par or at a premium over par.

The following table summarizes the Company's debt obligations. (Interest rates reflected in the table include the effects of interest rate and foreign currency exchange agreements.)

IN MILLIONS OF U.S. DOLLARS	Maturity dates	Interest rates ⁽¹⁾ December 31		Amounts outstanding December 31	
		2003	2002	2003	2002
Fixed-original issue ⁽²⁾		5.0%	5.2%	\$ 3,615.5	\$ 3,659.4
Fixed-converted via exchange agreements ⁽³⁾		4.6	5.2	(1,503.6)	(995.4)
Floating		.8	1.3	643.2	793.1
Total U.S. Dollars	2004-2028			2,755.1	3,457.1
Fixed		4.3	5.5	895.5	677.8
Floating		2.0	3.1	2,217.4	1,954.7
Total Euro	2004-2013			3,112.9	2,632.5
Fixed		6.0	6.2	1,256.2	1,152.6
Floating		2.2	5.5	2.5	186.1
Total British Pounds Sterling	2005-2032			1,258.7	1,338.7
Fixed		6.1	6.2	131.6	156.0
Floating		.8	1.9	250.1	237.3
Total other European currencies ⁽⁴⁾	2004-2007			381.7	393.3
Total Japanese Yen-fixed	2004-2030	1.9	1.9	1,028.1	900.4
Fixed		6.4	7.2	383.4	459.0
Floating		4.2	4.8	489.4	433.6
Total other currencies ⁽⁵⁾	2004-2016			872.8	892.6
Debt obligations before fair value adjustments ⁽⁶⁾				9,409.3	9,614.6
Fair value adjustments ⁽⁷⁾				321.2	364.8
Total debt obligations ⁽⁸⁾				\$ 9,730.5	\$ 9,979.4

(1) Weighted-average effective rate, computed on a semiannual basis.

(2) Includes \$150 million of debentures that mature in 2027, which are subordinated to senior debt and provide for the ability to defer interest payments up to five years under certain conditions.

(3) A portion of U.S. Dollar fixed-rate debt effectively has been converted into other currencies and/or into floating-rate debt through the use of exchange agreements. The rates shown reflect the fixed rate on the receivable portion of the exchange agreements. All other obligations in this table reflect the net effects of these and other exchange agreements.

(4) Primarily consists of Swiss Francs, Swedish Kronor and Danish Kroner.

(5) Primarily consists of Korean Won, Chinese Renminbi, Hong Kong Dollars, Australian Dollars and Singapore Dollars.

(6) Aggregate maturities for 2003 debt obligations before fair value adjustments were as follows (in millions): 2004-\$388.0; 2005-\$1,371.6; 2006-\$1,941.0; 2007-\$666.7; 2008-\$851.0; thereafter-\$4,191.0. These amounts include reclassifications of short-term obligations to long-term obligations of \$750.0 million in 2006 and \$500.0 million thereafter as they are supported by long-term line of credit agreements.

(7) SFAS No. 133 requires that the underlying items in fair value hedges, in this case debt obligations, be recorded at fair value. The related hedging instrument is also recorded at fair value in either miscellaneous other assets or other long-term liabilities. A portion (\$131.1 million) of the adjustments at December 31, 2003 related to interest rate exchange agreements that were terminated in December 2002 and will amortize as a reduction of interest expense over the remaining life of the debt.

(8) Includes current maturities of long-term debt and long-term debt included in the Consolidated balance sheet. The decrease in debt obligations from December 31, 2002 to December 31, 2003 was due to net repayments (\$891.6 million) and SFAS No. 133 noncash fair value adjustments (\$43.6 million), partly offset by the impact of changes in exchange rates on foreign currency denominated debt (\$686.3 million).

ESOP LOANS AND OTHER GUARANTEES

At December 31, 2003, the Company has guaranteed and included in total debt \$15.4 million of Notes issued by the Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) with payments through 2006. Borrowings related to the ESOP at December 31, 2003, which include \$85.9 million of loans from the Company to the ESOP and the \$15.4 million of Notes guaranteed by the Company, are reflected as long-term debt with a corresponding reduction of shareholders' equity (unearned ESOP compensation). The ESOP is repaying the loans and interest through 2018 using Company contributions and dividends from its McDonald's common stock holdings. As the principal amount of the borrowings is repaid, the debt and the unearned ESOP compensation are being reduced.

The Company also has guaranteed certain affiliate and other loans totaling \$88.8 million at December 31, 2003. These guarantees are contingent commitments generally issued by the Company to support borrowing arrangements of certain U.S. partnerships and franchisees, and certain affiliates. The terms of the guarantees vary and are equal to the remaining term of the related debt. At December 31, 2003, there was no carrying value for obligations under these guarantees in the Company's Consolidated balance sheet.

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

The Company's Profit Sharing and Savings Plan for U.S.-based employees includes profit sharing, 401(k) and leveraged employee stock ownership (ESOP) features. The 401(k) feature allows participants to make pretax contributions that are partly matched from shares released under the ESOP. McDonald's executives, staff and restaurant managers

participate in any additional ESOP allocations and profit sharing contributions, based on their compensation. The profit sharing contribution is discretionary, and the Company determines the amount each year.

Effective March 31, 2003, all contributions and related earnings can be invested among several investment alternatives, including McDonald's common stock, in accordance with each participant's elections. Prior to March 31, 2003, ESOP allocations and earnings were generally invested in McDonald's common stock and all other contributions and related earnings could be invested among several investment alternatives, including McDonald's common stock.

In addition, the Company maintains a nonqualified, unfunded Supplemental Plan that allows participants to make tax-deferred contributions and receive Company-provided allocations that cannot be made under the Profit Sharing and Savings Plan because of Internal Revenue Service limitations. The investment alternatives in the Supplemental Plan are based on certain of the market-rate investment alternatives under the Profit Sharing and Savings Plan. Total liabilities under the Supplemental Plan were \$329.3 million at December 31, 2003 and \$297.3 million at December 31, 2002 and were included in other long-term liabilities in the Consolidated balance sheet.

The Company has entered into derivative contracts to hedge market-driven changes in certain of the Supplemental Plan liabilities. At December 31, 2003, derivatives with a fair value of \$51.6 million indexed to the Company's stock and \$49.4 million indexed to certain market indices were included in miscellaneous other assets in the Consolidated balance sheet. All changes in Plan liabilities and in the fair value of the derivatives are recorded in selling, general & administrative expenses. Changes in fair value of the derivatives indexed to the Company's stock are recorded in the income statement because the contracts provide the counterparty with a choice to settle in cash or shares.

Total U.S. costs for the Profit Sharing and Savings Plan, including nonqualified benefits and related hedging activities, were (in millions): 2003—\$60.3; 2002—\$50.1; 2001—\$54.6.

Certain subsidiaries outside the U.S. also offer profit sharing, stock purchase or other similar benefit plans. Total plan costs outside the U.S. were (in millions): 2003—\$43.9; 2002—\$36.8; 2001—\$39.7.

Other postretirement benefits and postemployment benefits, excluding severance benefits related to the 2002 and 2001 restructuring charges, were immaterial.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Net property and equipment consisted of:

IN MILLIONS	December 31, 2003	2002
Land	\$ 4,483.0	\$ 4,169.6
Buildings and improvements on owned land	9,693.4	8,747.2
Buildings and improvements on leased land	9,792.1	8,872.5
Equipment, signs and seating	4,090.5	3,765.1
Other	681.2	664.2
	28,740.2	26,218.6
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(8,815.5)	(7,635.2)
Net property and equipment	\$19,924.7	\$18,583.4

Depreciation and amortization expense was (in millions): 2003—\$1,113.3; 2002—\$971.1; 2001—\$945.6.

STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

At December 31, 2003, the Company had five stock-based compensation plans for employees and nonemployee directors that authorize the granting of various equity-based incentives including stock options, restricted stock and restricted stock units. The number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance under the plans was 206.0 million at December 31, 2003, including 11.8 million available for future grants.

STOCK OPTIONS

Options to purchase common stock are granted at the fair market value of the stock on the date of grant. Therefore, no compensation cost has been recognized in the Consolidated statement of income for these stock options. Substantially all of the options become exercisable in four equal installments, beginning a year from the date of the grant, and generally expire 10 years from the grant date. Approximately 44 million options granted between May 1, 1999 and December 31, 2000 expire 13 years from the date of grant.

In 2001, the Board of Directors approved a special grant of 11.9 million options at a price of \$28.90 as an incentive to meet an operating income performance goal for calendar year 2003. The options vested on January 31, 2004 and expire on June 30, 2004, rather than June 30, 2011, because the Company did not meet the performance goal.

A summary of the status of the Company's stock option plans as of December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001, and changes during the years then ended, is presented in the following table.

Options	2003			2002			2001		
	Shares IN MILLIONS	Weighted- average price	Shares IN MILLIONS	Weighted- average price	Shares IN MILLIONS	Weighted- average price	Shares IN MILLIONS	Weighted- average price	Shares IN MILLIONS
Outstanding at beginning of year	198.9	\$27.57	192.9	\$26.65	175.8	\$25.34			
Granted	23.6	14.96	26.3	28.26	38.6 ⁽¹⁾	29.37			
Exercised	(12.6)	15.19	(13.1)	14.91	(11.9)	13.70			
Forfeited	(15.7)	27.07	(7.2)	29.22	(9.6)	29.03			
Outstanding at end of year	194.2	\$26.90	198.9	\$27.57	192.9	\$26.65			
Exercisable at end of year	122.9		110.9		98.2				

(1) Includes the special grant of 11.9 million options.

Options granted each year were 1.9%, 2.1% and 3.0% of weighted-average common shares outstanding for 2003, 2002 and 2001, representing grants to approximately 14,300, 13,900 and 15,100 employees in those three years.

The following table presents information related to options outstanding and options exercisable at December 31, 2003 based on ranges of exercise prices.

Range of exercise prices	December 31, 2003					
	Options outstanding		Options exercisable			
	Number of options IN MILLIONS	Weighted-average remaining contractual life IN YEARS	Weighted-average exercise price	Number of options IN MILLIONS	Weighted-average exercise price	
\$12 to 22	41.0	5.7	\$15.49	17.8	\$16.08	
23 to 27	56.8	3.4	24.95	47.8	24.92	
28 to 34	54.3	6.4	29.12	19.6	29.31	
35 to 46	42.1	8.4	37.81	37.7	38.11	
\$12 to 46	194.2	5.8	\$26.90	122.9	\$28.38	

RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS

In March 2003, the Company granted 1.8 million restricted stock units (RSUs) at a price of \$14.31. The RSUs generally vest 100% at the end of three years and are payable in either shares of common stock or cash, at the Company's option. Compensation expense related to the RSUs (calculated as the number of RSUs granted multiplied by the grant price) is amortized over the vesting period in selling, general & administrative expenses in the Consolidated statement of income.

Quarterly results (unaudited)

In millions, except per share data	Quarters ended December 31		Quarters ended September 30		Quarters ended June 30		Quarters ended March 31	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002
Revenues								
Sales by Company-operated restaurants	\$3,398.4	\$2,932.8	\$3,351.2	\$3,019.3	\$3,189.7	\$2,869.0	\$2,856.1	\$2,678.5
Revenues from franchised and affiliated restaurants	1,157.0	966.4	1,153.4	1,027.7	1,091.1	993.1	943.6	918.9
Total revenues	4,555.4	3,899.2	4,504.6	4,047.0	4,280.8	3,862.1	3,799.7	3,597.4
Company-operated margin	486.4	374.5	510.6	434.5	445.7	415.1	346.7	368.9
Franchised margin	909.6	749.2	917.4	813.5	860.1	787.1	720.3	716.2
Operating income (loss)	367.5⁽¹⁾	(203.4) ⁽²⁾	963.9	829.8	826.2	845.2	674.6	641.3 ⁽³⁾
Income (loss) before cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$ 125.7⁽¹⁾	\$ (343.8) ⁽²⁾	\$ 547.4	\$ 486.7	\$ 470.9	\$ 497.5	\$ 364.2	\$ 351.7 ⁽³⁾
Cumulative effect of accounting changes, net of tax							(36.8)	(98.6)
Net income (loss)	\$ 125.7⁽¹⁾	\$ (343.8) ⁽²⁾	\$ 547.4	\$ 486.7	\$ 470.9	\$ 497.5	\$ 327.4	\$ 253.1 ⁽³⁾
Per common share—basic:								
Income (loss) before cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$.10⁽¹⁾	\$ (.27) ⁽²⁾	\$.43	\$.38	\$.37	\$.39	\$.29	\$.28 ⁽³⁾
Cumulative effect of accounting changes							(.03)	(.08)
Net income (loss)	\$.10⁽¹⁾	\$ (.27) ⁽²⁾	\$.43	\$.38	\$.37	\$.39	\$.26	\$.20 ⁽³⁾
Per common share—diluted:								
Income (loss) before cumulative effect of accounting changes	\$.10⁽¹⁾	\$ (.27) ⁽²⁾	\$.43	\$.38	\$.37	\$.39	\$.29	\$.27 ⁽³⁾
Cumulative effect of accounting changes							(.03)	(.07)
Net income (loss)	\$.10⁽¹⁾	\$ (.27) ⁽²⁾	\$.43	\$.38	\$.37	\$.39	\$.26	\$.20 ⁽³⁾
Dividends declared per common share								
High	\$ 27.01	\$ 19.95	\$ 24.37	\$ 28.62	\$ 22.95	\$ 30.72	\$ 17.38	\$ 29.06
Low	23.01	15.17	20.40	17.42	13.88	27.00	12.12	25.38
Close	24.83	16.08	23.54	17.66	22.06	28.45	14.46	27.75

(1) Includes the following net charges totaling \$0.25 per share:

- > \$272.1 million (\$183.2 million after tax) related to the disposition of certain non-McDonald's brands and the revitalization plan actions of our Japanese affiliate.
- > \$135.5 million (\$140.0 million after tax) primarily related to asset/goodwill impairment mainly in Latin America, restaurant closings associated with strategic actions in Latin America and a favorable adjustment to the 2002 charge for restaurant closings, primarily due to about 85 fewer closings than originally anticipated.

(2) Includes the following charges totaling \$0.52 per share:

- > \$266.9 million (\$243.6 million after tax) primarily related to the anticipated transfer of ownership in five countries in the Middle East and Latin America, ceasing operations in two countries in Latin America and eliminating positions, reallocating resources and consolidating certain home office facilities to control costs.
- > \$359.4 million (\$292.8 million after tax) consisting of \$292.2 million related to management's decision to close 719 underperforming restaurants primarily in the U.S. and Japan, and \$67.2 million primarily related to the impairment of assets for certain existing restaurants in Europe and Latin America.
- > \$183.9 million (\$120.5 million after tax) consisting of \$170.0 million related to management's decision to terminate a long-term technology project, and \$13.9 million related to the write-off of receivables and inventory in Venezuela as a result of the temporary closure of all McDonald's restaurants due to a national strike.

(3) Includes \$43.0 million of asset impairment charges (pre and after tax or \$0.03 per share), primarily related to the impairment of assets in existing restaurants in Chile and other Latin American markets and the closing of 32 underperforming restaurants in Turkey.

MANAGEMENT'S REPORT

Management is responsible for the preparation, integrity and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements and notes to the consolidated financial statements. The financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. and include certain amounts based on management's judgment and best estimates. Other financial information presented is consistent with the financial statements.

The Company maintains a system of internal control over financial reporting including safeguarding of assets against unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition, which is designed to provide reasonable assurance to the Company's management and Board of Directors regarding the preparation of reliable published financial statements and asset safeguarding. The system includes a documented organizational structure and appropriate division of responsibilities; established policies and procedures that are communicated throughout the Company; careful selection, training and development of our people; and utilization of an internal audit program. Policies and procedures prescribe that the Company and all employees are to maintain high standards of proper business practices throughout the world.

There are inherent limitations to the effectiveness of any system of internal control, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of controls. Accordingly, even an effective internal control system can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and safeguarding of assets. Furthermore, the effectiveness of an internal control system can change with circumstances. The Company believes that it maintains an effective system of internal control over financial reporting and safeguarding of assets against unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition.

The consolidated financial statements have been audited by independent auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, who were given unrestricted access to all financial records and related data. The audit report of Ernst & Young LLP is presented herein.

The Board of Directors, operating through its Audit Committee composed entirely of independent Directors, oversees the financial reporting process. Ernst & Young LLP has unrestricted access to the Audit Committee and regularly meets with the Committee to discuss accounting, auditing and financial reporting matters.

McDONALD'S CORPORATION
January 26, 2004

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SHAREHOLDERS
McDONALD'S CORPORATION

We have audited the accompanying Consolidated balance sheets of McDonald's Corporation as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the related Consolidated statements of income, shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of McDonald's Corporation management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the U.S. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of McDonald's Corporation at December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S.

As discussed in the Notes to the consolidated financial statements, effective January 1, 2003, the Company changed its method for accounting for asset retirement obligations to conform with SFAS No. 143, *Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations*. Effective January 1, 2002, the Company changed its method for accounting for goodwill to conform with SFAS No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*.

ERNST & YOUNG LLP
Chicago, Illinois
January 26, 2004

McDonald's Corporation

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